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ABSTRACT

This advisory list includes books classified as fiction in the school media collection for primary through senior high school grade levels. Entries included in the list were selected from those books submitted by publishers which were favorably reviewed by educators. An unannotated list of books receiving favorable notices in the indicated reviewing sources is attached. Entries include citation, price if available, grade level, and annotation. (Author/KP)

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ADVISORY LIST OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

FICTION BOOKS

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Materials Review & Evaluation Services
Division of Educational Media
State Department of Public Instruction

Raleigh, North Carolina
January 1977

ADVISORY LIST OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

FICTION BOOKS

This bibliography lists books classified as fiction in the school media collection.

The name of a school administrative unit appearing after an annotation indicates that educators in that school system reviewed the book annotated and submitted the information for inclusion on the ADVISORY LISTS. Occasionally such books may not appear on display at the Materials Review and Evaluation Center in Raleigh. Educators should bear in mind that books included on this list were selected from those which publishers chose to submit for evaluation and may assume that books available for purchase not appearing on the list either were not submitted for evaluation or received unfavorable reviews. Information about negative reviews, which do not appear on this bibliography, can be obtained by writing or calling the Materials Review and Evaluation Center. At the end of this bibliography may be found an unannotated list of books which have had favorable reviews in reliable reviewing sources.

The levels at which books may be most effectively used are indicated by "prim" (primary: Grades K-3), "elem" (elementary: Grades 4-6), "jhs" (junior high school: Grades 7-8[9]), and "shs" (senior high school: Grades [9]10-12). The insertion of an arabic numeral after the grade level indicates that the book is especially pertinent at that specific grade level--e.g., "elem-6."

In some cases prices were not available. Prices shown are those quoted by publishers and producers. Prices quoted do not include postage and are subject to change.

All books included on this bibliography except some of those suggested for inclusion by local school administrative units are displayed in the Materials Review and Evaluation Center at 620 North West Street in Raleigh.

PLEASE DO NOT ORDER BOOKS ON THIS LIST FROM THE MATERIALS REVIEW AND EVALUATION CENTER OR FROM THE DIVISION OF TEXTBOOKS. Sources of the books are listed on the colored sheets at the end of this bibliography and in the DIRECTORY OF PUBLISHERS AND PRODUCERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEDIA REVIEW PROGRAM, a separate publication accompanying the complete set of ADVISORY LISTS OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA. An abbreviated or code name for the publisher/producer appearing in the bibliographic entry on this list appears in the DIRECTORY, where the complete address follows the code name.

Schools may use this list to aid in selection of materials but are in no way restricted to purchasing items included on this list.

Alexander, Lloyd. THE WIZARD IN THE TREE. Dutton, 1975. 138 p. $7.50. elem

Tale of Mallory, an abused young kitchen maid living in the manor house of an evil squire who makes life miserable for all those around him; one day Mallory rescues a strange, wizened little man called Arbican trapped inside a fallen oak tree; wreathed by long strands of grizzled hair, his beard tangled with splinters, this unlikely enchanter soon teams up with Mallory to combat the squire--aided, of course, by a little old-fashioned wizardry; wry, sly, funny;

THE WIZARD IN THE TREE. (Cont'd)

by the Newbery Medal-winning author of THE HIGH KING, THE MARVELOUS MISADVENTURES OF SEBASTION, and THE CAT WHO WISHED TO BE A MAN; delectable read-aloud choice

Allen, Alex B. THE TENNIS MENACE. Whitman, 1975. 64 p. $2.63. elem jhs-7

High-interest/low-vocabulary appeal in this brief little account of Andy who learns to play tennis by practicing with two girls, Sheila and Tracy; Andy enters the tournament, plays with Tracy, and wins; slight plot, a lot of dialogue, thin book, but gets and holds reader's attention; for "reluctant," sports-minded readers; one title from the Springboard Sports Series by the same author

Anderson, Margaret J. TO NOWHERE AND BACK. Knopf, 1975. 141 p. $5.99. elem

Unhappy in England while her father does research, young Elizabeth amuses herself by visiting the ruins of nearby cottages; there she merges mystically into the person of Ann, a peasant girl who lived 100 years ago; well-plotted suspense quickens our concern for Elizabeth's own jeopardized identity and her parents' reaction to the whole phenomenon; though curiously lacking in English flavor and atmosphere, this one is definitely a title for elementary grades' mystery/science fiction collections

Anker, Charlotte. LAST NIGHT I SAW ANDROMEDA. Walck, 1975. 126 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7

This is Jenny's story--broken home, once-a-week visits from scientist daddy, his desire that she recognize constellations and be scientifically inclined; discovery of clam fossil becomes key to pleasing him, growing to obsession; young readers will enjoy fossil information, will identify with Jenny's need to win her father's approval; story weakened by inclusion of too many social issues--racism, women's lib, ecology; pen-and-ink drawings (Wilkes County)

Asian Cultural Centre for Unesco, sels. FESTIVALS IN ASIA. Kodansha, 1975. 66 p. $6.95. prim elem jhs-7

Asian Cultural Centre for Unesco, sels. MORE FESTIVALS IN ASIA. Kodansha, 1975. 66 p. $6.95. prim elem jhs-7

Children's stories of Asian festivals told with special emphasis on those festival activities most appealing to children; represents 18 Asian countries in traditional religious and seasonal celebrations; watercolor illustrations fail to capture uniqueness of specific cultures. (This item also appears on the Social Studies Advisory List.)

Avi. NO MORE MAGIC. Pantheon, 1975. 138 p. $6.99. elem

Entertaining mystery narrated by young Chris whose green bike ("a shimmery green color which I had never seen on any other bike...I liked to think it...had some kind of magic powers") disappears along with a Halloween warlock costume; convinced that the bike is stolen, Chris launches a great search, enlisting his pals' help; his hope that magic somehow is involved and the whole concept of blaming others without proof will sustain interest (Wilkes County)

Babbitt, Natalie. TUCK EVERLASTING. Farrar, 1975. 139 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs shs

Spanning time from 1800's to 1950, this strange, provocative story of kindly pioneer family who must wander forever, cursed with "blessing" of eternal life, recounts their rendezvous with a young girl intrigued by spring whence the life-perpetuating water flows; Tuck family--Ma, Pa, Miles, and Jesse--wisely conceal the source of their immortality, abducting 11-year-old Winnie Foster to prevent her drinking the water when she stumbles upon the spring; Winnie's strange interlude with the Tucks, who're over 100 years old yet vigorous and youthful, has much to say to all ages about naturalness and value of death as a fitting completion of cycle of life; Chapter 12 in which Pa Tuck, from vantage point of one who can never fulfill the natural destiny, explains to Winnie the necessity of death is lovely, reassuring; beautiful, skillfully plotted story, unencumbered by heavy-handed philosophy; richly descriptive; believable characterizations; sensitive young readers who've lost someone dear by death will be renewed and grateful as they depart the Tucks

Bawden, Nina. THE PEPPERMINT PIG. Lippincott, 1975. 191 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Story of Greengrass family, forced to move from London to Norfolk at turn of century while Father, accepting blame for office theft he did not commit, looks for work in America; nine-year-old Poll, youngest child, outgoing, impetuous, lovable, shares center stage with her beloved Johnnie, runt pig of a litter, who becomes family pet; vivid characterizations--mother, charming, courageous, practical; older brother George, scholarly, sensitive; Lily, lovely, proper; 10-year-old Theo, undersized, clever, complex; townspeople totally believable with definite personalities, especially the maiden aunt; readers will live the year with the family, skating on ice pond, rejoicing at festivals, chuckling through tea parties, agonizing over Poll's scarlet fever and especially Johnnie's butchering; beautifully written; a 'must'

Beatty, John and Patricia. WHO COMES TO KING'S MOUNTAIN? Morrow, 1975. 287 p. $5.11. jhs-9 shs

Alex, story's teen-aged hero, will appeal to students--his spying, the battle, his quick thinking, his capture, and how he is spared from hanging, all dramatic details; something of living conditions in South during Revolutionary War caught here; shows division between Scottish settlers near North and South Carolina border, some Loyalists, others Patriots fighting for freedom, stressing that colonists fought not only the British but also each other; especially good reading for average groups (Wilkes County)

Bellairs, John. THE FIGURE IN THE SHADOWS. Dial, 1975. 155 p. $5.47. elem jhs-7

Lewis, fat, soft, fearful, is ridiculed and bullied by all of his classmates except rough and tough Rose Rita, his only friend; Lewis discovers that a lucky coin, given by his magician uncle, has wonder-working powers which help him defeat the school bully; then ominous things begin to happen--a mysterious figure stalks Lewis to get that coin; sequel to THE HOUSE WITH A CLOCK IN ITS WALLS; simple, direct style to engross believers in magic; pen-and-ink drawings sharpen mood

Borland, Kathryn, and Helen Speicher. GOOD-BY TO STONY CRICK. McGraw, 1975. 138 p. $5.72. elem jhs

Story of adjustments of Weatherhead family, forced to move from hills of Stony Crick, Kentucky, to Chicago; told from viewpoint of 11-year-old Jeremy who

GOOD-BY TO STONY CRICK. (Cont'd)

resents the harsh, impersonal city; Jeremy experiences rejection and cruelty at school and longs to return to his beloved mountains until a blind teacher's friendship forces him to overcome his fears and begin to adapt; realistic value questions well handled (going into debt to buy luxuries, TV addiction); especially beneficial to students who have relocated and experienced culture shock; insightful study of another American minority group in sympathetic but honest portrait of the mountaineer Weatherheads; charcoal sketches (Wilkes County)

Bourne, Miriam Anne. NABBY ADAMS' DIARY. Coward, 1975. 128 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7

Fictional diary such as Nabby, daughter of John and Abigail Adams, might have kept; apparently historically accurate; few pictures; appeal for fifth and sixth grade girls; bibliography

Bova, Ben. CITY OF DARKNESS. Scribners, 1976. 150 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Futuristic science fiction--cities officially closed and people relocated outside in efficient, mechanized, germ-free Tracts; 16-year-old Tract inhabitant, Ron, visiting New York City as a tourist before gates are closed on Labor Day is beaten, robbed, conned, locked in with people who "live 'n the city alla time" and their dog-eat-dog survival tactics; strong social commentary on pollution, inflation, harsh reality of ghetto life, discrimination against minority groups, especially black people; description and dialogue of warring street gangs is strong, colorful, authentic; will appeal to science fiction buffs and socially aware people; several inconsistencies in exploration of survival methods, street safety, tourist profiteering, Moslem army infiltration (Wilkes County)

Brown, Roy. THE WHITE SPARROW. Seabury, 1975. 158 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs

Two homeless boys, Boy and Sprog, wander the streets of London, living in whatever vacant building they can find, eating whatever they can steal or recover from garbage; Sprog is invited to live with a junk dealer and his daughter but Boy wants freedom, so disappears; plaintive story will appeal particularly to boys; sequel to FLIGHT OF SPARROWS

Bulla, Clyde Robert. SHOESHINE GIRL. Crowell, 1975. 84 p. $5.95. elem

Ten-year-old spoiled brat, Sarah Ida, rolls into Palmsville to visit Aunt Claudia for the summer; after demanding money from her relative to no avail, Sarah Ida seeks a job which will shame her aunt into providing an allowance; when her ploy fails, she embarks on a career as a shoeshine girl--an experience which serves as a turning point in her development into a responsible, considerate person; well paced; believable characterizations; pen-and-ink drawings; good accompaniment to BREAD AND BUTTERFLIES ITV series. (This item also appears on the Advisory List for the Reduction of Sex Bias.)

Burney, Eugenia. THE STORY OF FORT SUMTER. Childrens, 1975. 31 p. $4.25. elem jhs

Fictionalized but accurate and well-researched account of Fort Sumter's role in national history; unbiased look at the battle which opened the Civil War; blue and gray sketches accompany text; large print; useful social studies resource for study of U. S. history; earmark this one for reluctant readers

Caidin, Martin. THE LAST DOGFIGHT. Houghton, 1974. 281 p. $7.95. jhs shs

Two World War II flying aces, American and Japanese, lead squadrons in combat against each other, each man scoring enough kills to become legendary; climactically, the two heroes meet in a last duel to the death over Pacific; both Japanese and American viewpoints sensitively pleaded; another tale from pen of experienced pilot who should excite adolescents caught up in drama of war stories; profanity, confined generally to dialogue, is not overdone for a war story, but media selection groups should consider community attitudes before purchasing

Calhoun, Mary. OWNSELF. Harper, 1975. 149 p. $6.11. elem jhs-7

Well-plotted, fast-paced story of 11-year-old Laurabelle Morgan growing up on Missouri farm in 1903 and combatting shyness often suffered by sensitive middle child in a large brood; Laurabelle, in her first timid strivings toward discovering her identity--"ownself," becomes innocently enchanted with idea of fairies and magic, a topic now anathema to her volatile, Welsh-born father who had always enjoyed his native folklore until his conversion by a shouting Methodist preacher of limited vision and less love; both funny and realistic; pre-adolescents will identify with Laurabelle's efforts to win her fanatical father's love while preserving her right to individuality

Cameron, Eleanor. TO THE GREEN MOUNTAINS. Dutton, 1975. 180 p. $6.95. jhs-9 shs

Story of 13-year-old Kath Rule's dream-come-true escape from small-town hotel existence in southern Ohio to beauty and serenity of her grandmother's Vermont mountain home; sensitive, perceptive Kath watches relationships crumble: her beloved mother and despised father, her faithful black friends Grant and Tiss, her albino admirer and his mother; nobility and pettiness clash; World War I era scarcely touches these sharply drawn characters; vivid descriptions and nuances in style will appeal to intelligent readers (Wilkes County)

Carroll, Lewis. ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND and THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS. (A Rainbow Classic). Collins-World, 1974. 315 p. $3.91. prim elem jhs shs

Most attractive edition of Lewis Carroll's tale of little English girl's experiences "down the rabbit-hole" in crazy world of the Mock Turtle, the Cheshire Cat, the Red Queen, and all the other exotic creatures Alice encounters in Wonderland; complete and unabridged, with John Tenniel's original illustrations to delight adults anew and intrigue young discoverers of this story; excellent introduction by May Lamberton Becker; large print, wide margins; a bonanza at this price!

Christopher, Matt. STRANDED. Little, 1974. 116 p. $4.95. elem jhs

Another adventure from prolific pen of Matt Christopher, this one centers on young Andy whose parents are washed overboard when their sailboat crashes into reef during tropical storm; Andy and his dog, Max, escape with their lives but are grounded on uninhabited island; survival for 12-year-old boy is terrifying enough, but Andy is also blind; sensitive treatment of special problems relating to this handicap, plus the drama of survival, balance rather schmaltzy humanizing of Max, the loyal canine companion

Clark, Margaret Goff. DEATH AT THEIR HEELS. Dodd, 1975. 146 p. $4.95. elem-6 jhs

The kind of adventure many teen-agers fantasize about comes to life for Denny, unexpectedly invited to accompany his older stepbrother, Rick, on a mysterious camping trip; Denny soon learns that Rick is running literally for his life; real-life interpersonal relationships subtly and realistically drawn; interesting details about camping and wilderness life steady a somewhat farfetched plot; popular reading

Cleaver, Vera and Bill. DUST OF THE EARTH. Lippincott, 1975. 159 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Fourteen-year-old Fern Drawn relates her family's experiences on South Dakota sheep ranch where they "learned their meanings"; expressing little love and affection but needling and deviling one another, family members exist together but not in unity; the journey back to the Badlands to Mother Drawn's inherited estate, a series of misfortunes--blizzards, loss of sheep, birth of a new baby--finally draw family together; excellent description of sheep ranching; unusual study of human nature; moves slowly at first but quickens to compelling story of humor, warmth, and gripping suspense

Cline, Linda. WEAKFOOT. Lothrop, 1975. 176 p. $4.59. Also available from Bantam for $1.25 paper. jhs shs

Weakfoot, a killer panther, threatens the well-being of dwellers in Georgia swamplands of Okefenokee; Lonny Bascombe determines to hunt down this animal that killed his dog, but encounters more than the panther; his experiences with a fugitive, a young girl, and his own pa force him to mature; students who hunt with coon dogs will especially respond to fast-moving story (Wilkes County)

Clyne, Patricia Edwards. TUNNELS OF TERROR. Dodd, 1975. 157 p. $4.50. elem jhs

Five young friends begin adventure-filled expedition in underground cave hoping to find fossils as well as hidden treasure; heavy rains and a broken ladder trap three boys and two girls in quickly flooding cave; suspenseful reading; unfamiliar words explained cleverly; good enrichment for science buffs

Coatsworth, Elizabeth. MARRA'S WORLD. Greenwillow, 1975. 83 p. $5.11. elem

Motherless Marra is considered stupid by her classmates and teachers, reads with difficulty, cannot grasp math but she writes superior poetry and is kindred spirit with nature's secrets on her Maine island; befriended by Alison and her mother, Marra learns to sew, do housework, groom herself; her dreamworld fantasies help her cope with harsh existence; some gaps in story weaken its integrity, such as no clear explanation of Marra's mother's disappearance and no convincing motivation for her disapproving grandmother's change of heart; readers will enjoy "rich little poor girl" transformation in this appealing fantasy, as well as charm and mystery of island Marra explores; expressionistic pen-and-ink sketches (Wilkes County)

Colman, Hila. AFTER THE WEDDING. Morrow, 1975. 189 p. $5.11. shs

Credible if flawed portrait of breakup of a youthful marriage recounted by 19-year-old wife; Katherine and Peter swiftly perceive that their values, despite superficial similarities, are worlds apart; Katherine the potter, the

AFTER THE WEDDING. (Cont'd)

nature lover, the hermit soul, realizes that Peter the aspiring young TV producer, tennis player, cocktail circuit rover, has been a disastrous choice; in engrossing, confessional style, Katherine describes disintegration of their union; though her relentless refusals to concede a point will weary even the most devout back-to-nature lovers (as will stereotyped study of cold, ambitious husband), a sense of grim reality pervades; Katherine's final resolution will hearten girls with dreams beyond being just some man's appendage; fast, easy reading; good selection for high schools with a high percentage of teen-age marriages. (This item also appears on the Advisory List for the Reduction of Sex Bias.)

Cooper, Susan. THE GREY KING. Atheneum, 1975. 208 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs

Winner of 1975 Newbery Award and fourth in series of five books collectively titled THE DARK IS RISING; Will Stanton, youngest of the Old Ones, who are servants of the Light, recuperates from serious illness at his kinfolks' farm in Welsh hills; he meets Bran, an albino boy, and his grey-eyed dog, Cafall, who awaken a voice in Will--his time has come to retrieve the magic harp and rouse the Six Sleepers for final battle between Light and Dark; struggle between good and evil expressed in two dominating conflicts--Grey King's with Will and Caradog Pritchard's with hill dwellers; events happen rapidly, weaving fantasy with reality to spellbind readers; illustrations by Michael Heslop

Cunningham, Julia. MAYBE, A MOLE. Pantheon, 1974. 81 p. $5.59. Also available from Dell for $.95 paper. prim-3 elem

Maybe, the mole, is extraordinary because he can see; Maybe loves to look, will not disguise his unnatural ability, and is voted out of the moles' burrow; five light-hearted incidents portray trust, companionship, and love among creatures, amplified by soft pen-and-ink illustrations; delightful for reading aloud to younger children; Grades 3-6 can read it for themsleves

Curry, Jane Louise. THE WATCHERS. Atheneum, 1975. 235 p. $6.50. jhs shs-10

Thirteen-year-old Ray Siler, at odds with his stepmother, father, school, himself, is shipped to mountains of southern West Virginia to live with relatives he despises as ignorant and simple; discovery of a snake fossil catapults Ray back centuries when this place, Twilly Green, was ravaged, betrayed; past merges with present--a life-and-death struggle waged by his kin to save cherished land from mining companies; in the end, Ray chooses to live in the rough mountain beauty with his people whom he has come to admire, love; plot moves swiftly, too swiftly to define all characters or clarify identity of the Watchers and details of ancient tragedy; graphic descriptions of land, people, culture; much local color; eerie otherworld atmosphere and fast action will capture better readers

Dahl, Roald. DANNY: THE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD. Knopf, 1975. 198 p. $6.69. elem jhs

Nine-year-old Danny, living with his father in rural England, is challenged by the return of his dad's old pheasant poaching fever; the boy's sly brainstorm for poaching so many pheasants that none remain for rich, hateful Mr. Hazell's opening-day shoot wins Danny the honor of "champion of the world"--for poaching 120 pheasants at one time! More important than whacky, suspenseful plot are poignant father/son exchanges--tenderness and consideration without mask of gruff, masculine stereotypes so often portrayed in male relationships;

DANNY: THE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD. (Cont'd)

exciting to read aloud as a serial or as enrichment for units on English culture. (This item also appears on the Advisory List for the Reduction of Sex Bias.)

Danziger, Paula. THE CAT ATE MY GYMSUIT. Delacorte, 1974. 147 p. $4.58. Also available from Dell for $.95 paper. jhs

Book's title, one of many farfetched excuses Marcy gives her gym instructor, prepares readers for Marcy's poor self-image; an imaginative, caring English teacher opens a world of understanding, communication; Marcy begins to get in touch with her feelings, make friends, come out of her shell; when English teacher is dismissed, Marcy and her friends rally to demand her reinstatement; Marcy's belief in truth of her cause emboldens her to assert herself against her tyrannical father and help her timid mother become her own person; junior high readers will recognize school situations, parents' attitudes, their own struggles; good story despite some stereotyped characters and rather unsatisfying ending; book could help teachers and parents--has bibliotherapy possibilities (Wilkes County). (This item also appears on the Advisory List for the Reduction of Sex Bias.)

De Angeli, Marguerite. THE LION IN THE BOX. Doubleday, 1975. 63 p. $4.95. prim-3 elem

A friend's reminiscences inspired this story of young widow's struggle to support her five children in New York City in 1901; Mama works odd jobs, sometimes late at night; children cooperate in household chores, each one unselfish, respectful, never arguing or disagreeing, enjoying simple recreation--reading, stringing popcorn, making three-dimensional stars (directions given); efforts of friends and neighbors to help valiant family climax at Christmas--a huge box delivered with warning not to open before time because there is "a lion in the box," which turns out to be presents of every sort; all sweetness and light, but kind of refreshing change from deluge of literature dissecting family tensions; epilogue supplies happy ending of each child's eventual success; large print, wide margins; charcoal illustrations charmingly old-fashioned

Dixon, Paige. PROMISES TO KEEP. Atheneum, 1974. 165 p. $6.95. jhs-9 shs

Engaging story of staid New England family who reluctantly welcome into the fold the orphaned son of one of their own aristocratic sons by a Vietnamese wife; when "Uncle Bill's foreign kid," Lon, flies to America to join the family in Miller's Creek, all sorts of embarrassing situations arise, or so it seems to young Charles Miller, first cousin of the French-accented, aloof young arrival; narrated by Charles (lovable and transparent in Holden Caulfield tradition), this story is touching, funny, moving, never maudlin; readers will be caught up at once in the plot and will care about what happens to Charles, Lon, and even stiff-necked, blue-blooded Grandmother Miller; offers sympathetic insight into prejudices suffered by "outsiders," while transcending cant and particularities

Dodge, Mary Mapes. HANS BRINKER OR, THE SILVER SKATES. (A Rainbow Classic). Collins-World, 1974. 335 p. $3.91. elem jhs

Complete and unabridged edition of Mary Mapes Dodge's classic tale of the famous skate race on the Zuyder Zee; nicely bound, wide margins, good print; illustrated in homespun black-and-white drawings by native-born Dutchwoman, Hilda van Stockum; introduction by May Lamberton Becker, famous editor of

HANS BRINKER OR, THE SILVER SKATES. (Cont'd)

children's magazine, ST. NICHOLAS, which was founded by Mrs. Dodge; attractive edition of 1865 children's favorite

Doty, Jean Slaughter. WINTER PONY. Macmillan, 1975. 106 p. $5.95.
prim-3 elem jhs-7

Ginny trains her pony Mokey to draw a sleigh in this sequel to SUMMER PONY; interest heightens when she assists in birth of Mokey's foal; helpful pointers on pony care will attract young horse lovers; large print and frequent gray-toned watercolors (Wilkes County)

Edmonds, Walter D. BERT BREEN'S BARN. Little, 1975. 270 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Tom Dolan, his father having abandoned the family, exemplifies determination at its best, leaving school to work at local feed mill and dreaming of buying Widow Breen's barn, relocating it, and making his farm a success; detailed passages describe painstaking process of razing and reassembling barn; the search for missing Breen money provides suspense; portrays simple farm people in upper New York in early 1900's; diagrams on barn building included; nominee in Children's Literature category of National Book Awards (Wilkes County)

Ewing, Kathryn. A PRIVATE MATTER. Harcourt, 1975. 88 p. $5.95. elem

Sensitive story of nine-year-old Marcy Benson's growing attachment to Mr. Endicott, a kindly, retired neighbor who represents the ideal father in the girl's eyes, and the inevitable hurt sown by her presumption; the author treats the loneliness and needs of a child growing up in a broken home with unusual insight and gentle humor; likable young protagonist whose conflicting emotions will make good sense to middle graders; very readable

Farley, Carol. THE GARDEN IS DOING FINE. Atheneum, 1975. 185 p. $6.95.
elem-6 jhs

Themes of life and death prevail in story of young Corrie, whose hospitalized father is dying of cancer; Corrie and her mother deny reality, refusing to accept Mr. Sheldon's terminal illness, consoling each other with imagined signs of his improvement; Mrs. Sheldon insists upon reassuring her husband that his beloved vegetable garden is "doing fine" when in fact, like Mr. Sheldon, it is dying; unsentimentalized, moving story of a child's anguish and outrage as death gradually claims an adored parent; Corrie's grief and her eventual acceptance--especially the means by which she finds peace and hope--will comfort youngsters faced with similar losses; especially skillful rendering of Corrie's conflicting desires to be near her dad every free minute and her normal, youthful wishes for fun, boys, school activities

First, Julia. AMY. Prentice, 1975. 84 p. $5.95. jhs

Another one of Julia First's breezy, gossipy, first-person narratives, this time told by sixth-grader, Amy Hadley, who has quite a school year, what with the terrors of the metric system, the harrassment of one smart-alecky Donald Randall, the competition of disgustingly pretty newcomer, Rosalie, of the "long, blonde, silky hair and ocean-blue eyes," and many more exciting, frustrating, pre-adolescent ups and downs; fast, funny text

Fisher, Leonard Everett. ACROSS THE SEA FROM GALWAY. Four Winds, 1975. 103 p. $6.50. elem jhs

Traces Donovan family's struggle during Ireland's famine years, as Liam, the father, scrapes together funds to send three children to America, describing shipwreck death of two, and survival of Patrick; outstanding raven black illustrations with white pen lines hauntingly portray sombre mood of book; Thomas Moore's poetry interwoven thematically, introducing several chapters; vivid portrayal of suffering, courage, survival, determination of Irish through excruciating suffering; historical and poetic

Fitzgerald, John D. THE GREAT BRAIN DOES IT AGAIN. Dial, 1975. 129 p. $5.4?. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. elem jhs-7

The Great Brain's devoted following will welcome his latest swindles and schemes--from a chute-the-chute coaster ride to a buried treasure hunt; Tom D. Fitzgerald, who turns 13 in the last episode and "settles down," maintains his reputation as con artist and money-lover through eight episodes of this latest collection; well-paced, entertaining, witty; effectively illustrated with good period touches by Mercer Meyer (Chapel Hill)

Garfield, Leon. THE SOUND OF COACHES. Viking, 1974. 256 p. $5.95. jhs-9 shs

Fast-moving chronicle of young Sam Chichester's picaresque adventures in 18th-century England; adopted by a stern old coachman and his even tougher wife, who rides shotgun on their express coach to London, Sam seems fated despite his best intentions to tangle with trouble--heroes, villains, serving maids, and the most colorful company of players since Twain's immortal Duke and King; beautifully crafted, exquisitely narrated slice of 18th-century life

Gault, William Campbell. THE BIG STICK. Dutton, 1975. 121 p. $6.95. jhs shs

At age seven, Rusty Todd of Nord, Minnesota, a town bordered by three small lakes frozen all winter, seemed destined for an ice skating career; soon Rusty's interest in hockey supplanted that notion as coaches assured the maturing youth of his great potential in the dangerous, demanding sport--if temperamental, redheaded Rusty could just learn to "cool it on the ice"; another good one for Gault fans, taking them into exciting arena of National Hockey League

George, Jean Craighead. HOOK A FISH, CATCH A MOUNTAIN. Dutton, 1975. 129 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs

Set on Snake River at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, story tells of 13-year-old dance student from New York struggling to adapt to outdoor life, especially fishing; Spinner Shafter's father named the girl after a fish lure and expects her to recapture the family fish medal from her Uncle Auggie; what follows are the adventures and misadventures of Spinner and her cousin, Al, as they hike into mountains seeking answers about cutthroat trout; lacks appeal of author's other books but will interest children; those seeking elimination of sex bias will welcome this story of a heroine who holds her own in male world; all measurement of distance stated in metric terms; some difficult words--"rappel," "crepuscular." (This item also appears on the Advisory List for the Reduction of Sex Bias.)

Gilman, Dorothy. A NUN IN THE CLOSET. Doubleday, 1975. 191 p. $5.95. jhs shs

Lovers of Mrs. Polifax will enjoy Dorothy Gilman's Sister John and Sister Hyacinthe, delightful sleuths who find themselves caught up with the Mafia, drug pushers, hippies, and a Buddhist guru; fast, light reading, mixing suspense and humor in nice proportions

Gray, Genevieve. VARNELL ROBERTS, SUPER-PIGEON. Houghton, 1975. 113 p. $5.95. jhs

An undersized seventh-grade transfer from parochial school is victimized in a daily shakedown by three bullies at Rio Verde Junior High School; Varnell's grades drop and he resorts to petty thievery to meet the payoffs; landing in an experimental "Behavior Mod" class, Varnell learns to assert himself and to overcome his "super pigeon" status, craftily employing techniques learned in behavior modification to outwit his tormentors; readers will respond to first-person narration and may identify with various characters and situations while learning some psychology; anyone who has experienced similar frustrations might balk at simplistic solutions and "happily ever after" flavor; pen-and-ink sketches enrich graphic style (Wilkes County)

Griese, Arnold A. THE WAY OF OUR PEOPLE. Crowell, 1975. 82 p. $5.95. elem

Kano, an Alaskan lad in 1838, must overcome his morbid fear of hunting alone; his survival as a member of his Indian tribe depends upon his personal bravery and his huntsman's skill in the dark forest where moose, bears ("devil animals"), and the evil spirit of the Nakani dwell; Kano's secret fear of the deep woods leads him to seek the wise counsel of Old One--and to prove his manhood in an unexpected act of physical and moral courage entirely unrelated to hunting; soft black-and-white illustrations by Hzru Wells suggest icy country and stoic Indian life-style; excellent social studies enrichment material for middle grades

Hamilton, Gail. A CANDLE TO THE DEVIL. Atheneum, 1975. 180 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Teen-aged Daphne spends several months of her unexpected school holiday with an English aunt in 600-year-old cottage on Cornish Coast; dull beginnings rapidly evolve into adventure as Daphne stumbles into mystery of a stolen painting, ominous threats, eerie cellar sounds, witches--but no devils, despite title; young readers will joyfully climb belltowers at midnight and stumble over dark cliffs; superfluous glossary of American equivalent of English words; crosshatch drawings of coast and cottage

Hamilton, Virginia. ARILLA SUN DOWN. Greenwillow, 1976. 248 p. $7.95. jhs shs-10

Twelve-year-old Arilla Adams weaves her way through past memories and present conflicts to self-discovery; typical adolescent in her doubts, fears, rebellion, confusion, but unusual in her response to challenge of growing up in a family not really belonging anywhere--mother is black, father is black and American Indian, brother bitterly resents his interracial tribe and envisions himself a radical, militant Indian; Arilla's courage and sensitivity enable her to overcome complexities, to take her place as young woman determined to live a meaningful life; Newbery Medal winner has written another excellent book for sensitive readers, providing insights into their own struggles, dreams

Heide, Florence Parry, and Roxanne Heide. MYSTERY OF THE BEWITCHED BOOKMOBILE. Whitman, 1975. 128 p. $3.19. elem jhs

Spotlight Club members investigate mystery of a bookmobile break-in, methodically

MYSTERY OF THE BEWITCHED BOOKMOBILE. (Cont'd)

pulling together a variety of clues--a strange code, "7938SM," an odd man with a silver cane, a sharp-chinned villainess and her sleek Afghan hound, and a valuable stolen formula; will appeal to middle-grade students and to older, reluctant readers

Heide, Florence Parry, and Roxanne Heide. MYSTERY OF THE MELTING SNOWMAN. Whitman, 1974. 128 p. $2.96. prim-3 elem

Jay, Cindy, and Dexter, members of the Spotlight Club, discover a mysterious iron dog hidden in a snowman; thanks to their "super sleuth" skills, a great injustice is uncovered; another in series of mysteries for slow readers; high-level suspense; attractive title for poor secondary readers

Hergé. THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN: THE CASTAFIORE EMERALD. Little, 1975. 62 p. $2.50 paper. elem jhs shs

Comic book format, only larger and more durable, distinguishes this daffy story about disappearance of Bianca Castafiore's prized emerald, a gift from Maharajah of Gopal; boy sleuth, Tintin, employs all his skills in solving mystery of the emerald theft, aided by Snowy, his dog, and Captain Haddock, a tough old salt with a ready stream of colorful epithets ("Blistering barnacles!" "Thundering Typhoons!"); above-average comic book quality; first published abroad; colorful, full of visual action; some difficult vocabulary ("incognito," "pinnacle," "sacrilege"); purely leisure-time reading; high-interest/low-vocabulary appeal for senior high school students who can but won't read (Wilkes County)

Hildick, E. W. THE CASE OF THE CONDEMNED CAT: A MCGURK MYSTERY. Macmillan, 1975. 106 p. $5.95. elem

A pet dove murdered, all evidence points to Ray's pet cat, Whiskers, tried, found guilty, condemned to certain death at the pound; but 10-year-old McGurk and his Organization believe in Whiskers' innocence, hide him away, stalk the real killer, and persevere even in the face of Whiskers' disappearance and a second killing; cartoon drawings help the fun mood

Hodges, Glen A. LOST BEAR. Dutton, 1975. 72 p. $6.50. prim-3 elem

Tugging at the reader's heart to the very last page, this story relates how a tiny bear cub is orphaned during an earthquake and manages to survive against very great odds; vivid description of Alaskan setting and of bird and animal life there; delightful story for reading aloud or for independent enjoyment; exceptionally attractive black-and-white illustrations

Hinton, S. E. RUMBLE FISH. Delacorte, 1975. 122 p. $6.95. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. jhs shs

Rusty-James romanticizes the street-rumble era of which his brother, Motorcycle Boy, was a hero; in his 14th year, the world crashes for Rusty-James--he loses his girl and his reputation as the toughest kid in the group, and Motorcycle Boy gets killed by overanxious policemen; sent to a reformatory, Rusty-James tells his story in first person to an old neighborhood friend; some profanity (not vulgar street talk); sensitive without being maudlin; packs a punch; realistic; vocabulary and low-keyed style especially appealing for underachievers

Hodge, Jane Aiken. ONE WAY TO VENICE. Coward, 1975. 118 p. $7.95. jhs-9 shs

Suspenseful tale of young woman driven to dangerous adventure by mysterious letters alluding to whereabouts of her lost child; Julia Rivers, divorced, successful assistant to top London security specialist, had put the tragic early years of her life behind her--or so she thought; but when letters began to arrive in block-letter messages offering bits and pieces of tantalizing clues to little Dominic's existence, Julia could not resist the pull of her past; drama of pursuit and flight acted out in scenic Venice; fast-moving, plausible plot; good title for suspense lovers

Hurwitz, Johanna. BUSYBODY NORA. Morrow, 1976. 64 p. $4.59. prim elem-4

Six short stories about adventure-filled life of New York City apartment building family; six-year-old Nora, a likable busybody, adds much to the fun with her curiosity and flair for nosing out excitement; should motivate interest in other childhood favorites alluded to in the six stories (e.g., STONE SOUP, STORY OF BABAR, MADELINE, CURIOUS GEORGE, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK); soft charcoal illustrations mildly humorous; good for reading aloud or for individual reading by older primary and younger elementary grade students

Hyde, Dayton O. STRANGE COMPANION: A STORY OF SURVIVAL. Dutton, 1975. 152 p. $7.95. elem-6 jhs

David, 13-year-old stowaway on small government observation plane, survives a rending crash, along with Archie, the tough old pilot; plot centers on David's survival skills; interesting to out-of-doors enthusiasts; also deals with ecology--a rare whooping crane egg is discovered and hatched; christened Rusty, the chick becomes David's companion; small print; adventures are believable and educational

Ingram, Tom. THE NIGHT RIDER. Bradbury, 1975. 176 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs

Gothic mystery set in Geneva combining realism with fantasy; a gold bracelet found by Laura in a mountain river empowers her to return at will to a time and place centuries past where she is Merta, cursed by her lover's enemies; traveling between past and present, Laura realizes the frightening truth that she will die unless she can dispose of the cursed jewelry; compelling mystery, believable for the most part, though Merta appears languid and helpless, the character of Laura's mother is elusive, and Julian is a contradictory personality; coherent transitions from present to past; simple vocabulary allows readers to follow plot avidly; pen-and-ink drawings (Wilkes County)

Katz, William. NORTH STAR CRUSADE. Putnam, 1976. 287 p. $7.95. shs

What happens between the world's nuclear powers if someone takes over one of their submarines without their knowledge? Realistic, spine chilling novel to keep readers on edge of their seats from first page to last; probes into thinking of those in command and the political pressure cooker in which they live; could help social studies teachers introduce students to realities of a nuclear world; superb book!

Kent, Alexander. RICHARD BOLITHO, MIDSHIPMAN. Putnam, 1976. 159 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

Story of 16-year-old Dick Bolitho in Royal Navy in 1772 which describes sailors' life, rules of the sea, Dick's specific duties as midshipman; seasoned by four

RICHARD BOLITHO, MIDSHIPMAN. (Cont'd)

years' experience, he performs competently, courageously, in battle with pirates, graphically described; exciting challenges and heroic responses of "good guys" captivate young readers, especially boys

Kerr, Judith. THE OTHER WAY ROUND. Coward, 1975. 256 p. $7.95. jhs-9 shs

Anna, Mama, Papa, and Max struggle through trying times as a German-Jewish refugee family in London during World War II; the heroine, teen-aged Anna, lives a far from normal life amid bombs and rubble of wartime London; despite war's daily intrusion, Anna studies for a secretarial career, supports her parents by working at a menial job, has a brief romance, and pursues her love of art through night classes in drawing; students who liked THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK will enjoy this book on a similar subject (Wilkes County)

Kimmel, Margaret Mary. MAGIC IN THE MIST. Atheneum, 1975. unp. $4.95. prim-3 elem

Young Thomas, a would-be magician, and his pet frog, Jeremy, live in a cold, damp, shabby hut by a bog in Wales; despite all his efforts, Thomas can't conjure up a fire to heat their shack, and even the bog creatures won't venture inside; then the dragon appears--with one puff of flame, the dragon lights a fire transforming the hut into a place of warmth and cheer; fanciful story with much appeal for children; excellent pen-and-ink drawings

Lea, Alec. TEMBA DAWN. Scribners, 1975. 134 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7

Young Rob, growing up on a dairy farm in Scotland, receives a calf for his tenth birthday; Temba Dawn becomes a very special creature to Rob who witnessed her birth, tenderly cares for her, watches her grow up, mate, and produce a bull calf; themes of life, birth, and death treated solemnly and naturally, revealing humankind's kinship with animal world that we tend; lovely example of people in tune with nature; realistic and optimistic

Levin, Martin, sel. LOVE STORIES. Quadrangle, 1975. 414 p. $12.50. shs

Collection of 28 twentieth century short stories, all about love but otherwise varied, including one about ducks, one about Tarzan and an ape, but mostly about people, naturally; major authors--Cather, Colette, Fitzgerald, Nabokov, Lessing, et al.--predominate; no commentary; scarcely indispensable for a high school library, but a nice collection

Lingard, Joan. A PROPER PLACE. Nelson, 1975. 159 p. $5.95. jhs-9 shs

From Belfast, Sadie and Kevin move to a Liverpool slum, have their son Brendan, and work toward a good life together; their hardships include intermarriage (Protestant/Catholic), little money, and family interference; occasional Irishisms are challenging ("Will you chum me?"); the fourth in a series of Sadie and Kevin books, this title provides upbeat, casual reading with a realistic look at another culture; enrichment resource for contemporary units on the Irish conflict

Llerena, Carlos Antonio. THE FAIR AT KANTA: A STORY FROM PERU. Holt, 1975. unp. $5.50. elem

Setting off to sell his barley at the fair, Paucar receives a magic flute from

THE FAIR AT KANTA: A STORY FROM PERU. (Cont'd)

Grandmother with instructions to play it only in case of danger; when a fox steals ropes used to tie barley to llamas, Paucar plays his flute and suddenly can understand the animals; a donkey helps him recover his ropes and continue to fair where he sells his barley and buys gifts for Grandmother; bold, busy, pen-and-ink drawings; uppercase letters make text somewhat difficult to read, but story will enrich study of South American countries

McHargue, Georgess. FUNNY BANANAS: THE MYSTERY IN THE MUSEUM. Holt, 1975. 79 p. $5.95. Also available from Dell for $.95 paper. elem

Entertaining mystery in unusual setting--New York Museum of Natural History; Ben sets out to help New York City Police find vandal ransacking information desk and leaving "funny bananas" (plantains) and hard-boiled eggs in Hall of Earth History; Carmen, a suspicious acting young Spanish girl, leads Ben to final clue after midnight chase through Dinosaur Room; nice pen-and-ink sketches by Heidi Palmer; amusing, flavorful reading for middle graders

Madison, Winifred. BIRD ON THE WING. Dell, 1974. 252 p. $1.25 paper. jhs shs

Sixteen-year-old Elizabeth is a run-away from the straight, stultifying existence of her stepmother's home; on the road Elizabeth joins Maija, a master weaver, and a whole new way of life unfolds entirely different from the middle-class mores and purposeless boys goading Elizabeth's rebellious spirit; some teen-agers might easily identify with Elizabeth's confusion and find solace in this youthful fantasy played out

Madison, Winifred. MARINKA, KATINKA, AND ME (SUSIE). Bradbury, 1975. 72 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Susie narrates this pleasant if slight story of friendship of three little fourth-grade girls confronting the insecurity of broken homes, apartment living, and working mothers; Susie describes all three little friends doing fun things--spatting, making up, going to school, wearing matching wool caps; little girls in similar circumstances will identify with Marinka, Katinka, and Susie; large black-and-white drawings, though attractive, add a babyish dimension inconsistent with middle-grade appeal of text

Malzberg, Barry. CONVERSATIONS. Bobbs, 1975. 89 p. $4.95. jhs shs-10

Futuristic fiction by well-known writer of adult science fiction; Barry Malzberg's first science fiction book for the young projects to the year 2169 when human beings live in Groups ruled by Elders who have absolute authority; 12-year-old Dal is curious about the past, a forbidden subject, and learns in conversations, hence the title, with his strange friend Lothar that people once lived in families; Dal's curiosity about history leads him eventually to share his taboo knowledge with the ignorant members of his Group; ending is a shocker; tautly written, suspenseful, fast moving; for thoughtful sci fi lovers

Manley, Seon, and Gogo Lewis, sels. LADIES OF FANTASY: TWO CENTURIES OF SINISTER STORIES BY THE GENTLE SEX. Lothrop, 1975. 214 p. $5.49. elem-6 jhs shs

Collection of 10 fanciful stories includes themes of reincarnation, futuristic doom (or science fiction), and supernatural events; interesting and entertaining stories well laid in cultural context of writers' time which stand on their own merit as a collection of stories by accomplished women in 19th and 20th centuries

LADIES OF FANTASY: TWO CENTURIES OF SINISTER STORIES BY THE GENTLE SEX. (Cont'd)

(Joan Aiken, Catharine Moore under the alias C. L. Moore, Grazia Deledda, winner of Nobel Prize in Literature); important addition to a short story collection

Manley, Seon, and Gogo Lewis. LADIES OF THE GOTHICS: TALES OF ROMANCE AND TERROR BY THE GENTLE SEX. Lothrop, 1975. 219 p. $5.81. shs

Inviting collection of gothic thrillers written by 10 women offering readers a taste of each writer's style; ideally, readers will search out and read entire novel, since several stories are excerpted from larger works; Celia Fremlin, Ruth Rendell, Mary Wilkins Freeman, Elizabeth M. Roberts, Mary Shelley, Harriet P. Spofford, Isak Dinesen, Ann Radcliffe, Emily Brontë, and Jane Austen are the 10 women represented; some difficult reading, especially in 19th-century selections, but excellent plots, styles for gothic novel buffs to encounter; creates appreciation for this genre's line of descent and for women's contributions to fiction; brief introduction prefacing each story highlights its special features (Wilkes County)

Mann, Peggy, and Katica Prusina. A PRESENT FOR YANYA. Random, 1975. 119 p. $5.99. elem jhs

Adventures of young Yanya who helps care for her invalid father and baby brother while her mother works in fields to provide for family; Yanya's business sense prevails when she takes eggs and produce to market where through shrewd bargaining she acquires enough money to buy expensive French doll she has yearned for, as well as a gift for her mother, returning home with profits from her sales to boot; good insight into devastation of Eastern Europe after World War II, the general poverty, sickness, hunger; Yanya's gruff, hard-pressed mother, her ill father just returned from German prison camp, and Yanya's normal, childish wish for something lovely to brighten her drab life will touch sympathetic readers

Manners, Alexandra. THE SINGING SWANS. Putnam, 1975. 256 p. $7.95. shs

Set in 19th-century Paris and Scotland, this gothic novel chronicles adventures of young Meraud, living in Paris with her mother and her mother's various lovers, finally joining her mysterious father on lonely Isle of Skye after her mother is strangled by an intruder; Meraud's discovery of two previous strangulations heightens suspense, deepening the girl's curiosity about her grim, aloof father, whom she already suspects of murdering her mother; eerie evocation of stark Isle of Skye, local superstitions, the forbidding mansion on Swan's Bay--so named for swans who sing when death is in the air; romance spices plot; for above-average readers interested in suspense novels

Marshak, Sondra, and Myrna Culbreath, eds. STAR TREK: THE NEW VOYAGES. Bantam, 1976. 237 p. $1.75 paper. jhs shs

Kirk, Spock, Bones, and friends are at it again in these eight new adventures of the Starship ENTERPRISE and her crew; although previous publications were adaptations of television scripts--either from original series (STAR TREK) or from new animated series (STAR TREK LOG)--these stories are essentially new material selected from reams of manuscripts produced by professional and amateur fans alike since the series' demise; each story introduced briefly by actor from original series; a 'must' for hordes of STAR TREK fans

Mathis, Sharon Bell. THE HUNDRED PENNY BOX. Viking, 1975. 47 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

1976 Newbery Honor Book; young Michael loves his 100-year-old Great-great-aunt Dew, shares her deepest feelings when Dew comes to live with his family, understands her need to cling to her few possessions, vainly explains to Ruth, his mother, that Aunt Dew's old rotten box containing a penny for each year of her life holds the pieces of that life; readers will weep with the old lady, envy Michael's sensitivity and tenderness, ache for Ruth; light and shadow in soft brown watercolors by Leo and Diane Dillon express gentleness, loneliness, pathos; beautiful book

Maxwell, R. H. COWBOY ON ICE. Childrens, 1975. 64 p. $4.95. elem jhs

Mac moves to a northern city from Texas and is accepted on a hockey team; eager to make an impression, he exaggerates about his background, loses friends; how he faces up to truth about himself and his game makes a worthwhile, exciting success story; color drawing accompanies each chapter; glossary-index of hockey games; suitable for high-interest/low-vocabulary reading

Mazer, Norma Fox. SATURDAY, THE TWELFTH OF OCTOBER. Delacorte, 1975. 247 p. $6.95. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. jhs

At 14, with questions no one will answer, Zan Ford lives in world of uncaring people where she is mugged and her brother reads her diary aloud to his friends; when her history teaches discusses time travel, Zan, in an emotional moment, enters the primitive world of cave people. Is she schizophrenic? Has she moved totally to the subconscious? Or has her body actually been transported to another time and place? Science fiction devotees will appreciate the [illegible]th, convincing transitions from present to past; teen-age problems realistically woven into both worlds (Wilkes County)

Miles, Betty. JUST THE BEGINNING. Knopf, 1976. 143 p. $6.39. elem jhs

Cathy has a lot going for her in a loving family, supportive friends, even an understanding teacher, so we know she'll be able to work through her problems--school suspension for a slight infraction, embarrassment over her mother's cleaning-lady employment, living up to an almost perfect older sister; disconcertingly authentic descriptions of zoo-like school busses and cold, impersonal climate of huge junior high school; Cathy's guilt when a classmate nobody likes is killed is sensitively drawn in finely understated manner; happy book setting forth values many families might study; will make a lot of young people laugh, cry, and, most of all, hope

Moeri, Louise. STAR MOTHER'S YOUNGEST CHILD. Houghton, 1975. unp. $3.95. prim-3 elem

Grumpy old woman, alone and forgotten by villagers, yearns to celebrate Christmas; up in the sky, Star Mother's youngest child shares the wish; both longings fulfilled when youngest child appears as ragamuffin on old woman's doorstep and they celebrate Christmas together; such words as "nonplussed," "abominable," "grotesque," and "countenance" complicate text for young independent readers; nevertheless, good read-aloud to be enjoyed by young and older children alike; Trina Schart Hyman's black-and-white illustrations vividly depict characters; pocket-sized format

Mohr, Nicholasa. EL BRONX REMEMBERED. Harper, 1975. 179 p. $5.79. Also available from Bantam for $1.25 paper. jhs-9 shs

Twelve stories about daily struggles of Puerto Ricans adapting to life in New York; very human characters, sensitive and selfish, loving and angry, humorous and pathetic; varied plots--Suaraz family's kindness to a lonely old man, Mrs. Fernandez's traumatic hen-slaughtering fiasco, the death of a beloved schoolmate, a marriage of convenience between a pregnant girl and a homosexual; sexual overtones and some earthy words in "A Lesson In Fortune Telling" and "Herman and Alice"; warm, tender, entertaining; direct and authentic (Wilkes County)

Monjo, F. N. GETTYSBURG: TAD LINCOLN'S STORY. Windmill, 1976. 48 p. $7.95. prim-3 elem

Tragedy of Civil War related for young readers in style of a young boy; Tad's own involvement will fascinate Civil War buffs with detailed "you are there" flavor; Lincoln's portrayal as the perfect man is acceptable as a son's hero worship; the use of "Bobby Lee and Jeffie D.," two cutesy names for Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis, unfortunately repeated ad nauseam; sepia illustrations convey grimness of the times, but are unattractive, disproportionate; still, a good addition to Civil War collection

Moskin, Marietta. WAITING FOR MAMA. Coward, 1975. 91 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

The plight of Jewish immigrants to America at turn of century; Becky impatiently awaits day when Mother and baby sister, Leah, can join her, Rachel, Jake, and Father; as youngest in family, she attends school while others work and save for Mother's passage to America; Becky's diligence in mastering English, however, proves to be the saving of her family on important day when they must leave their ethnic neighborhood to meet Mama at Ellis Island; fast-moving story; easy-to-read bold print and authentic illustrations provide young readers with vivid vignette of one of America's most important periods

Mulock, Dinah Maria. THE LITTLE LAME PRINCE. (A Rainbow Classic.) Collins-World, 1974. 135 p. $3.91. prim-3 elem

Beloved tale of crippled little Prince Dolor, rightful heir to throne of Nomansland who is banished to live years in exile in Hopeless Tower while his corrupt uncle rules the land; a fairy godmother and magic carpet brighten the Prince's lonely life; charming read-aloud for younger children; this perennial favorite is complete and unabridged, has excellent print and wide margins, and a fine introduction on author; good bargain at the price

Myers, Walter Dean. FAST SAM, COOL CLYDE, AND STUFF. Viking, 1975. 190 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Explores meaning of friendship through insight of "Stuff," one of the gang of black and Puerto Rican youths on 116th Street, New York City; poignant, delightful escapades of Stuff's 12th year recalled at ripe old age of 18; urban themes prevail--drugs, sports, gang loyalty, dance contests (Carnation Charley's cool savvy on the dance floor and the gang's ingenious revenge on him at the big dance competition are worth the price of the book); convincing characters and realistic street jive ensure broad appeal; selected for John Robbins' series, COVER TO COVER II, telecast over School Television; a special treat for inner-city readers--a groundbreaker for those in the "provinces" curious about city kids

Nation, Terry. SURVIVORS. Coward, 1976. 254 p. $8.95. shs

What would happen to civilization if a mutant virus killed 99% of world's population in two months? Abby Grant, formerly of London's suburban society, finds she must cope with a new world where civilization is suddenly set back by decades; social and physical problems presented in people's struggle to survive make stunning story; possible discussion problems for social studies classes; fast reading

Neigoff, Mike. RUNNER-UP. Whitman, 1975. 128 p. $3.19. elem jhs-7

Gary's fear of losing prevents his wholehearted participation in sports, although his family and best friend constantly urge him; finally he tries out for track, joins a team, and experiences what it means to lose and to win; especially for self-doubters or readers interested in sports; black-and-white crayon illustrations

Norton, Andre, and Michael Gilbert. THE DAY OF THE NESS. Walker & Co., 1975. 119 p. $5.95. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. prim-3 elem

Science fiction tale of space beings called Gotchas who enlist 10-year-old Hal to help free their leader from the cruel Ness species planning to take over the world; familiar Norton themes--a cat's devotion, cooperative community, ESP communication, and good against evil; cartoon-style illustrations and lots of alien creatures to intrigue young science fiction readers (Wilkes County)

Nöstlinger, Christine. FLY AWAY HOME. Watts, 1975. 135 p. $6.95. elem jhs shs-10

Based on author's own experiences, the story of a young girl and her family surviving, growing, interacting in atmosphere of war and enemy occupation; book's main strength is the careful recounting of things, events, and feelings surrounding daily life in Vienna during close of World War II; point of view is consistent and sees politics as a swirling outside force affecting life in every aspect; emotionally charged with touches of humor

O'Connell, Jean S. THE DOLLHOUSE CAPER. Crowell, 1975. 84 p. $5.95. prim elem

Fantasy about the Dollhouse family, who live in the children's dollhouse, of course, and come alive each night while their human owners sleep; discovering a plot to rob their humans' house while the family vacations, the dolls devise clever clues to warn the boys--break a dollhouse window from the outside, hide Father Dollhouse's head, remove a dollhouse painting; finally, on the trip, the boys put the clues together, rush back home to discover that the dolls have thwarted the robbers, saved the family treasures; whimsical tale to delight children; another strike for sexual equality--the human children are all boys, not the predictable girls; pen-and-ink drawings, fanciful, charming

Paterson, Katherine. THE MASTER PUPPETEER. Crowell, 1975. 179 p. $6.95. elem jhs shs-10

Exciting story set in 18th-century Japan, a time when utter poverty forces young Jiro to run away from home and apprentice himself to Yoshida, a puppet-master; Jiro forms a deep bond of friendship with Kinshi, Yoshida's son; suspense soars as Jiro tries to unravel connection between puppet theater and Robin Hood-type bandit known as Saboro; in midst of intrigue and terrifying experiences, Jiro comes to new maturity, an awareness of himself as a responsible person; fast-moving plot; authentic description of historical period in general and puppet theater in particular; black-white-gray brushwork illustrations; first-purchase

THE MASTER PUPPETEER. (Cont'd)

choice by author of SIGN OF THE CHRYSANTHEMUM (1973) and OF NIGHTINGALES THAT WEEP (1974); excellent enrichment reading for Asian studies in seventh grade

Peck, Richard. THE GHOST BELONGED TO ME. Viking, 1975. 183 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Humorous story of 13-year-old Alexander Armsworth whose life is turned upside down by ghost of young Indian girl, Inez; alerted by Inez's warnings, Alexander prevents a trolley disaster, which catapults him to town-hero status and obliges him to lay the ghost to eternal rest; he is aided in this adventure by his 85-year-old great-uncle and a skinny girl named Blossom; delightfully entertaining; set in small Missouri town in 1913; readers will chuckle through this

Peck, Robert Newton. SOUP AND ME. Knopf, 1975. 115 p. $5.99. prim-3 elem jhs-7

Sequel to SOUP, this book is the adventures and misadventures of two young boys growing up in Vermont, long on daring and short on common sense; they lose their clothes in icy Vermont lake and lose a battle to a turkey, ride a pumpkin down aisle of a Baptist church, end up stranded in courthouse bell tower trying to give a special Christmas gift to a special teacher; sometimes the attempt to make dialogue authentic boy-talk falls flat--just too talky--but escapades will entertain young readers; black-and-white charcoal drawings

Pinkwater, Manus. WINGMAN. Dodd, 1975. 63 p. $5.50. Also available from Dell for $.95 paper. elem jhs-7

Touching story of Chinese boy attending public school in New York City; ridiculed and rejected, Donald, whose real name is Chen-Chi-Wing, or Ah-Wing for short, plays hookey high on the George Washington Bridge, absorbed in his collection of 2,000 comic books; in this fantasy world he meets Wingman who transports him to China and back; a truant officer returns him to school where a substitute teacher, understanding, caring, helps him discover his abilities, especially his talent in art; a happy story illustrated by child's black-and-white drawings

Polese, Marcia, and Dorothea Wender. FRANKIE AND THE FAWN. Abingdon, 1974. 126 p. $4.50. elem

Treats several topics appealing to young readers: animals, warm family relations, action; when a fawn is injured, Frankie's mother, a veterinarian, carries the fawn and her three children to an animal hospital where her doctor friend recommends putting him to sleep; the children win, and the fawn is carried home to be nursed back to health; black-and-white crayon illustrations; large print

Rabe, Berniece. NAOMI. Nelson, 1975. 192 p. $5.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.25 paper. jhs shs

Poignant story of Missouri farm girl in 1930's, growing from 10-year-old child to young woman of 14 who longs for more than the traditional marriage at 15, babies, etc.; yearning to escape the farm, experience life and career, Naomi is restrained by the shadow a fortune-teller's prediction has cast over her young life--that she will die before age 14; a visiting nurse helps Naomi resolve her fears and find strength to determine her own course in life; Naomi's quiet courage will inspire readers

Rae, William E., ed. A TREASURY OF OUTDOOR LIFE. Harper, 1975. 394 p. $11.95. jhs shs

Those who love the out-of-doors or like history with a different twist will find this book absorbing, exciting reading; each article, published originally in OUTDOOR LIFE, is uniquely exciting; chiefly firsthand accounts of true adventure, exploration, history, hunting, fishing, camping, and much, much more; sportsminded girls and boys will devour these

Raskin, Joseph and Edith. GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY? TALES OF JUSTICE IN EARLY AMERICA. Lothrop, 1975. 128 p. $4.81. elem jhs

Ten fictionalized tales based on colonial court records range from disputes between white men and Indians, plantation owners and their slaves, to a saucy serving girl and a mistreated wife; light, entertaining style captures amusing and pathetic aspects of each conflict; large print with full-page, black-and-white illustrations; age-old question of justice will stimulate readers in the "guilty" or "not guilty" verdicts; excellent enrichment reading in colonial American history (Yadkin County). (This item also appears on the Social Studies Advisory List.)

Rock, Gail. A DREAM FOR ADDIE. Knopf, 1975. 89 p. $5.99. elem jhs-7

Drawn from CBS television special, THE EASTER PROMISE, featuring the same Addie Mills of THE THANKSGIVING TREASURE and A HOME WITHOUT A CHRISTMAS TREE, she makes friends with Constance Payne, an actress who has returned to sell the family homestead; Addie's triumph in getting the celebrity to narrate a fashion show backfires when Constance shows up drunk, thereafter shunned by townspeople; in the warmth and love of Mills family, Constance learns to accept her failures, accept herself as a worthwhile person, give up drinking; simplistic and sentimental, but the warmth, humor, success will charm young readers, especially girls; charcoal drawings illustrating delightful details of the '40's, especially clothes

Rockwood, Joyce. LONG MAN'S SONG. Holt, 1975. 207 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Story of Cherokee Indians, their customs, beliefs, culture before outsiders invaded their land; Soaring Hawk, apprentice medicine man trying to cure his sister's debilitating illness, is locked in mystical battle with hostile tribesman who he believes has conjured an evil spirit to destroy her; in the intensity of the struggle, Soaring Hawk experiences visions of Thunder, ruler of the dead, is counseled by Long Man, the river, and emerges victorious, a man; authentic details of Cherokee life, nature's beauty, complex clan loyalties, matriarchal lineage, and a tender love story will appeal to older, capable readers; rather heavy introduction by reputable anthropologist credits author's research

Rosten, Leo. O K*A*P*L*A*N! MY K*A*P*L*A*N! Harper, 1976. 361 p. $10.95. shs

He's back--travelling from THE NEW YORKER in the '30's through two books, here again with new adventures in Mr. Parkhill's beginners' class at The American Night Preparatory School for Adults, guilelessly butchering grammar and syntax, creating a revolutionary phonics system, wisdom and insight pouring out amid millions of malapropisms; a more interacting class no teacher could hope for--or dread--shy Miss Mitnick, smoldering Olga Tarnova, muttering Olaf Umen; students will laugh aloud and envy this class their involvement; a treat for everyone

Sachs, Marilyn. DORRIE'S BOOK. Doubleday, 1975. 136 p. $5.70. elem-6 jhs

Eleven-year-old Dorrie writes her story as a school assignment; she and her ideal parents were happy, financially comfortable, and enjoying each other until her mother's pregnancy interrupted their bliss; triplets force many unpleasant adjustments--the family must move to a house and neighborhood Dorrie detests; sibling jealousy and self-pity arise; Dorrie's hard-earned maturity, though, begins to assert itself as she copes with her new homelife; written in first person; humorous, realistic, warm; charming child's drawings do as much as text to portray feelings; readers will empathize with Dorrie's honest reactions (Wilkes County)

Sargent, Pamela, ed. MORE WOMEN OF WONDER: SCIENCE FICTION NOVELETTES BY WOMEN ABOUT WOMEN. Vintage, 1976. 305 p. $1.95 paper. shs-12

Impressive collection of science fiction stories written by women about women; spacewomen, alien women, a woman revolutionary, and a schoolgirl are some of the fictional heroines dispelling the image of dumb, screaming females in the clutches of monsters or blindly responding to the commands of spacemen; authors include Josephine Saxton ("The Power of Time"), Joanna Russ ("The Second Inquisition"), Kate Wilhelm ("The Funeral"), and Joan Vinge ("The Tin Soldier"); lengthy, 42-page introduction by Pamela Sargent will interest dedicated feminists, though it may tell them more than they want to know about "women's science fiction"; excellent stories; reserve for capable senior high school students--vocabulary and concepts are not simple

Schulz, Charles M. SPEAK SOFTLY, AND CARRY A BEAGLE. Holt, 1975. unp. $2.95 paper. prim elem jhs shs

Yea for Charlie Brown! A first-rate book to share with a friend; black-and-white cartoons featuring the whole gang; standard excellence

Sharmat, Marjorie Weinman. MAGGIE MARMELSTEIN FOR PRESIDENT. Harper, 1975. 122 p. $4.79. $1.50 paper. prim-3 elem jhs-7

Quickly moving story of a sixth grade girl's attempt to become class president; comical situations will appeal to both boys and girls in Grades 3-5 who will recognize classmates in some of the roles; good read-aloud book for those in-between moments; light and easy (Wilkes County)

Shelby, Graham. THE WOLF AT THE DOOR. Doubleday, 1975. 240 p. $6.95. jhs-9 shs

King John of England presented in a detailed historical novel closely following factual events; succeeding Richard the Lionhearted was too much for John, weak, deceitful, deficient, and finally forced by his barons to sign the Magna Carta; his stolen French bride, hate for his mother, love for jewels, uncontrollable temper and general meanness, all add spice to an otherwise lackluster portrayal of King John and this period of English history; two simplified maps; small print; reliable if unexciting (Wilkes County)

Shtainmets, Leon. THE STORY OF RICKY THE ROYAL DWARF. Harper, 1976. 48 p. $4.79. prim elem-4

Plaintive story of Ricky, a dwarf in the Spanish Court, who is cruelly tormented by the bored King; Ricky must dance on command, dress absurdly, perform all sorts of foolish antics--ride a dog, read verses from a chandelier--while his noble audience screams in glee; Ricky's fate at the Spanish Court takes a sudden

THE STORY OF RICKY THE ROYAL DWARF. (Cont'd)

turn when the French king and court arrive as guests; touchingly rendered tale, poetically lovely in capturing Ricky's sensitive heart, the idle court, and the pain suffered bravely by the dwarf; historically accurate in depiction of cruel Spanish court; open-ended, not a "happily-ever-after" finale; excellent read-aloud for sensitive young audiences

Sortor, Toni. ADVENTURES OF B. J.: THE AMATEUR DETECTIVE. Abingdon, 1975. 94 p. $3.50. elem

Eleven-year-old B. J. (Betty Jane) O'Brien assumes the unappreciated role of sleuthing for her private-detective mother on a shoplifting case; eventually taken in as confidante, B. J. finds that her labors are in vain since nine-year-old Sammy has the upper hand all the while; chatty, first-person narration by B. J.; comfortably predictable villains and heroes; feminists won't find solace here--Mom does stage a roadblock and save the kids, but it's little Sammy who carries off the laurels; shallow characterizations, but as interesting as Mannix for detective buffs or readers of skinny books; good print; black-and-white drawings

Spier, Peter. TIN LIZZIE. Doubleday, 1975. unp. $5.95. elem

Tin Lizzie's gala arrival one day in May, 1909, galvanized the sleepy little Midwestern town--horses reared, chickens flew, and folks gawked; Peter Spier's lively, busy illustrations and interesting text follow Lizzie through three owners and many gallant adventures before she is abandoned and finally restored to her original regal beauty; two pages of intricate schematics picturing and identifying every part of the 1909 Ford Model-T touring car will interest boys

Steig, William. ABEL'S ISLAND. Farrar, 1976. 117 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Abelard, member of the privileged mouse class, never needs to work, enjoys an idyllic existence with his lovely bride, Amanda; alas, 't is all swept away (or rather Abelard is) by a hurricane to a distant deserted island, which turns out to be a fortunate mishap; there Abel revives his natural instincts for survival and discovers a talent ensuring a more meaningful life in the happily-ever-after; beautifully written and illustrated; will charm readers from eight to 80; a must for every children's library

Stolz, Mary. THE CAT IN THE MIRROR. Harper, 1975. 199 p. $5.79. jhs shs

Erin Gandy, a loner with an identity problem, is loved by her father, tolerated by her mother, harried by her classmates in an exclusive New York school; taunts of school's "in-group" precipitate an accident and in her delirium Erin wanders back and forth in time and in identity--clever stratagem to release her subconscious; teenagers will identify with Erin's struggle to like herself despite constant criticism; author sometimes confuses point of view from which story is told--Erin is just too insightful and wise; few vulgar words here and there incidental to a worthwhile story that will appeal to advanced 6th graders, junior high, slower senior high readers (Wilkes County)

Stone, Irving. THE GREEK TREASURE: A BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL OF HENRY AND SOPHIA SCHLIEMANN. Doubleday, 1975. 479 p. $10.95. shs

Irving Stone combines history and fiction in story of Henry Schliemann, a real person and self-made millionaire who at 47 turned to his first love, archeology; human dimensions necessary to understanding history added in tracing Schliemann's

THE GREEK TREASURE: A BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL OF HENRY AND SOPHIA SCHLIEMANN. (Cont'd)

wooing of a classic Greek girl named Sophia, their marriage, and her training on some of the greatest digs in archeological history; absorbing reading of history and love, comedy and pathos, success and failure

Strick, Philip, ed. ANTIGRAV: COSMIC COMEDIES BY SF MASTERS. Taplinger, 1976. 184 p. $8.50. jhs-9 shs

Collection of 15 previously published science fiction stories representing popular writers; includes Harry Harrison's "Space Rats of the C.C.C.," James Blish's "The Glitch," "Hardcastle" by Ron Goulart, Aldiss's "The Ergot Show"; stories deal humorously with the future, ranging from farce to satire to bizarre; delightful addition to science fiction collections

Taylor, Mark. JENNIE JENKINS. Little, 1975. 47 p. $4.95. prim elem

Rollicking tale of tempestuous tomboy, Jennie Jenkins, who insists she will not attend the Nettle Bottom Ball, despite whole Jenkins clan's coercion; when Jennie suddenly, sweetly changes her mind, the Jenkinnes should have been suspicious! Jennie's dramatic arrival and performance at the ball will delight young readers; inspired by traditional folk song, "Jennie Jenkins," whose words and music are appended; a story in American folk tradition; Glen Rounds's humorous, whimsical illustrations extend text; classic contribution for read-aloud collections

Terlouw, Jan. WINTER IN WARTIME. McGraw, 1976. 197 p. $5.72. elem jhs-7

Set in Holland, an engrossing story of teen-aged boy's involvement in the home forces during World War II; realization of horrors of war leads Michiel Vatt Beusekom to hide an escaped POW and an injured British pilot; Michiel learns that wartime is not a time of gloriously heroic acts, but of doing things necessary for survival of self and country; one of the most interesting books of its type; hard to put down (Wilkes County)

Thomas, Dawn C. A BICYCLE FROM BRIDGETOWN. McGraw, 1975. 64 p. $5.72. prim elem

Edgar, a young native of Barbados, dreams of owning a racing bike, speeding across the island building strength and skill, eventually joining the renowned cycle team; honesty pays off--in a bike of his own; will introduce young readers to life on Barbados, though descriptions and explanations sometimes impede story; positive values emphasized--honesty, family ties, friendships; black-and-white illustrations of inhabitants, terrain

Trease, Geoffrey. THE BARONS' HOSTAGE. Nelson, 1975. 160 p. $6.50. jhs shs

Thirteenth-century conflict between Henry III of England and his brother-in-law, Simon de Montfort, provides dramatic backdrop for tale about Michael Vallier and Arlette de la Garde, central characters caught up in events of the times; their involvement in struggle between baron and king makes exciting reading; when de Montfort is killed during great Battle of Evesham and Henry is restored to throne, Michael successfully claims Vallier estate, joining it with Arlette's vast holdings through their marriage; as historical fiction, this book offers much historical fact and fictional romance; excellent enrichment reading on this period of English history (Wilkes County)

Turnbull, Ann. THE FRIGHTENED FOREST. Seabury, 1975. 125 p. $6.95. elem

A tale to send shivers up spines of lovers of supernatural mysteries; 10-year-old Gillian accepts dare to walk through dark, abandoned railway tunnel, unwittingly releasing a witch trapped under a rock; evil pervades Offa's Wood, changing summer calm to winter storm and driving forest animals from their havens; Gillian and her cousins plunge into perilous midnight journeys, magic spells, and encounters with Lord of the Wood while witch and wizard battle to the end; young people will enjoy Ann Turnbull's first book written especially for them; pen-and-ink drawings (Wilkes County)

Van der Veer, Judy. LONG TRAIL FOR FRANCISCO. Childrens, 1974. 108 p. $4.79. jhs shs-10

Sixteen year-old Francisco crosses Mexican border into California to earn money to send his poverty-stricken family; he suffers hunger, cold, rejection as he looks for work, avoiding immigration officials; he also experiences some kindness, and his story ends hopefully; author writes with understanding of barren countryside and problems of illegal entry along U. S./Mexican border; small print might discourage some readers

Walker, Barbara, retel. THE SCARED GHOST AND OTHER STORIES. McGraw, 1975. 80 p. $5.72. elem jhs

Twelve eerie tales, adapted from the original, by such good storytellers as Ambrose Bierce ("The Boarded Window"), Charles Dickens ("The Signalman"), Mary Wilkins Freeman ("The Wind in the Rosebush"), and Harriet Beecher Stowe ("The Ghost in the Mill"); some lend themselves more easily to watering down than others--e.g., Bierce's tale retains its vigor--but others, such as the Freeman tale, are flat and uninspired, the original's laconic style reduced to jerky, bare-bones, fact listing; still, some excellent selections representative of wide range of settings, including Japan, England, and U. S.; excellent print and wide margins; avid mystery lovers will like these

Walton, Bryce. THE FIRE TRAIL. Crowell, 1974. 169 p. $5.50. elem jhs

Young Dan Mallory has his heart set on joining elite group of airborne firefighters; he works to be best at everything during basic training, but is brought up short when a shocking disappointment gives him time to realize there's more to firefighting than glamour; Dan courageously fights fire on the ground through the summer to earn money for attending forestry school; helpful for career orientation and for students interested in the out-of-doors

Waters, John F. VICTORY CHIMES. Warne, 1976. 159 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Orphaned Johnny Boston, working at a Cape Cod hotel for the summer, becomes friends with hotel owner, Purple, and his girl, Zaida, old Admiral Flame, a guest, and especially Jumbo, a 440-pound giant of massive strength, teller of tall tales; when an Argentine freighter is driven aground, Johnny's friends devise a plan to buy the ship, salvage it, and make their fortunes; how this is successfully completed reveals much about character and simple honesty; bonds of friendship strengthen, and Johnny's future is secured; a happy ending, good for morale; rich in nautical knowledge

Weston, John. THE BOY WHO SANG THE BIRDS. Scribners, 1976. 106 p. $6.95. elem

Fantasy and realism delicately balanced to weave parable of value and dignity of all creation, of people's relationships to each other and to all nature; when an abandoned child wanders into mountain town of Charley Crossing, he is adopted by an orphan, 15-year-old Tobe, who names the child Darple because of the strange noises he utters; birds flock to area in unusual numbers, upsetting townspeople who decide to shoot them in spite of an old lady's warning of a harsh winter; the birds depart, the prediction comes true, many people perish; in the end the boys bring the birds back; soft ethereal illustrations in pen-and-ink pointillism; large print, generous margins, cream-colored paper

Weverka, Robert. THE WALTONS: TROUBLE ON THE MOUNTAIN. Bantam, 1975. 152 p. $.95 paper. jhs shs

Delightful story about family of popular TV series, "The Waltons"; when John Boy's story is rejected by Collier's Magazine because it isn't typed, he and Grandpa Walton secretly borrow Baldwin sisters' typewriter so John Boy can re-submit his story; Mary Ellen inadvertently sells the priceless typewriter to junk man, starting chain of events that will amuse and delight

Wilkinson, Brenda. LUDELL. Harper, 1975. 170 p. $5.79. elem jhs

Tender story of Ludell, a black girl growing up in Waycross, Georgia, in mid-1950's; Ludell, intelligent, with a deep yearning to "be somebody" in spite of uninspired fifth grade routine in her segregated school, is alert and imaginative, believable in her fights with boys, secret pacts with girl friends, resistance to heavy-handed authority, habitual aversion to physical labor; Ludell also craves and respects justice, sensitivity, kindness; at the end of the book, Ludell is completing seventh grade, experiencing first love, and realizing that she is a gifted writer; dialogue in black American vernacular; rich local color; something in the spirit of this book recalls TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD--this might be the black child's side of the Southern experience; will entertain and inspire black girls in rural and urban areas; superb high-interest/low-vocabulary reading for senior high groups; outstanding first novel by a young black writer who herself grew up in Waycross, Georgia

Williams, Jeanne. WINTER WHEAT. Putnam, 1975. 157 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Fictionalized account of Mennonite family's struggles on Western prairie, centering on young girl in a family of all girls who strives to prove she is equal to a son; good insight into harsh life of the prairie; a little romance spices plot (Wilkes County)

Woodford, Peggy. BACKWATER WAR. Farrar, 1974. 213 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

When Guernsey, one of four Channel Islands off coast of France, is occupied by Nazi troops in 1940, 17-year-old Anna Hardy and her family are asked to move out of their home; wartime life and its effect upon different family members vividly portrayed as escape plot unfolds; stereotyped characters such as prisoner, mother, heroine herself, weaken story, but romance and suspense will appeal to girls as well as boys

Yep, Laurence. DRAGONWINGS. Harper, 1975. 248 p. $6.69. jhs shs-10

Thoughtful, first-person narrative of Moon Shadow, a young Chinese boy who sailed to America in 1903 to join his father, Windrider, living in Chinatown

DRAGONWINGS. (Cont'd)

and working in a laundry but clinging to an awesome dream; although Moon Shadow had never before seen his father, he soon grew to love and admire this courageous man who endured the mockery of his fellow Chinese and the discriminations of "demons" (whites) with persevering faith in his vision--to build and fly an airplane; steeped in lore and culture of this American minority group, the book will dispel crude, stereotyped images of yellow hordes, of "Charlie Chan and his fortune-cookie wisdom," and the laundrymen, cooks, and houseboys of too many television shows; excellent enrichment reading for Asian studies; best reserved for capable junior high school readers; 1976 Newbery Honor Book. (This item also appears on the Social Studies Advisory List.)

Books in a Series

SEEDLING BOOKS. Lerner. unp. each $4.95. prim elem jhs shs
Franklin, Benjamin. THE WHISTLE. 1974
Poe, Edgar Allan. THE DEVIL IN THE BELFRY. 1974
Thoreau, Henry D. WHAT BEFELL AT MRS. BROOKS'S. 1974
Twain, Mark. THE BOYS' AMBITION FROM LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI. 1975

Although the Seedling series was originally intended for primary grades, it should be considered nongraded, to be selected and purchased according to relevance to curriculum, creative writing and mini-course interests, literature emphasis, study of authors and their works; Mark Twain's "The Boys' Ambition" is a nostalgic essay from his autobiographical work written in 1883 (LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI); Benjamin Franklin's "The Whistle" is a moralistic lesson on thrift based on an incident from Franklin's own childhood; Edgar Allan Poe's story, "The Devil in the Belfry," combines the supernatural with quaint humor; Henry David Thoreau's "What Befell at Mrs. Brooks's" from Thoreau's Journal, March 19, 1856, is a droll lesson on the wisdom of 'Haste makes waste' and can be read by primary children but has subtler appeal for adults; outstanding artwork ranging from pen-and-ink drawings reminiscent of POOR RICHARD'S ALMANACK to colorful acrylics

Smith, Beatrice S. MINI-MYSTERIES. Carolrhoda, 1976. unp. $23.70. each $3.95. prim elem-4

THE CASE OF THE LOST DOGS
THE CASE OF THE MISSING BILLS
THE FISH CREEK MYSTERY
THE GHOST IN THE PARK
THE MYSTERY OF THE GREEN GLOVES
VOICES FROM THE HAUNTED HOUSE

Nine-year-old Kate King and her younger brother, Ben, help solve the kidnapping of their dog, Tip, suffer through accusations of stealing money, discover a "fisherman" who turns out to be a robber, and hear voices in a haunted house, among other escapades in this series of pocket-sized mysteries for children in Grades 1-4; compact size, colorful reinforced library binding, two-color illustrations, and bold print enhance Mini-Mysteries; very effective for story hour (Wilkes County)

BOOKS (FOR TEACHER USE)

Hentoff, Nat. THIS SCHOOL IS DRIVING ME CRAZY. Delacorte, 1976. 154 p. $6.95.

Sam, the headmaster's son, has a talent for trouble; although his attention-getting antics target him for all blame, Sam's sense of honor proves him far superior to some "model students" when he is falsely accused of running a

THIS SCHOOL IS DRIVING ME CRAZY. (Cont'd)

shakedown racket; characters somewhat stereotyped; vulgar language dominates dialogue; still, this book could aid parents and teachers to rethink attitudes, judgments, responses; teachers might suggest this to selected students; not a book for all audiences; noble values propounded

Steptoe, John. MARCIA. Viking, 1976. 81 p. $7.95.

Marcia relates the highs and the hassels of growing up and getting "with it" in her Brooklyn housing project, at Junior High School 33, and, most importantly, in her response to boyfriend Danny's hotblooded admiration; touching briefly on inner-city themes--drugs, neighborhood toughs--the plot surges quickly to the point: will 15-year-old Marcia yield to Danny's urgent pleas (and her own awakening body) for a total sexual commitment? Narrated chiefly by Marcia in racy, 1970-ish black vernacular, the story has the quality of a frank, unstudied confessional spilled out extemporaneously; Steptoe captures in swift strokes the troubled heart behind Marcia's breezy, wisecracking front and the poignant, uncertain groping toward manhood motivating Danny's moods; engaging, disturbing; Steptoe's abstract color portraits add depth and beauty to this slice-of-life look at the turmoils of modern young blacks; high-interest/low-vocabulary appeal for Grades 9-12; English teachers and librarians definitely should preview before purchase; not a book for all schools; but a useful addition to inner-city senior high school fiction collections--which, by the way, does <u>not</u> go into offensive, explicit details

BOOKS REVIEWED IN OTHER SOURCES

The books listed below have received favorable reviews in one or more of the following reviewing sources. Code letters for the reviewing sources are cited after the bibliographic entry for each title. The reviewing sources and their code letters are as follows:

AMERICAN LIBRARIES	AL
APPRAISAL	A
BOOK REVIEW DIGEST	BRD
BOOKLIST	BKL
BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS	BCCB
CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW SERVICE	CBRS
CHOICE	C
HORN BOOK	HB
KIRKUS REVIEWS	KR
LIBRARY JOURNAL	LJ
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY	PW
SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL	SLJ
SCIENCE AND CHILDREN	SC
SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS	SBF
TOP OF THE NEWS	TN
WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN	WLB

An asterisk after the code letters for the reviewing source indicates that the title was highly recommended in that particular reviewing source.

Aldridge, James. THE UNTOUCHABLE JULI. Little, 1975. 256 p. $6.95. shs
BKL BRD KR LJ

Alexander, Anne. TO LIVE A LIE. Atheneum, 1975. 165 p. $6.95. elem jhs-7
CBRS KR PW SLJ

Allan, Mabel Esther. ROMANSGROVE. Atheneum, 1975. 217 p. $6.95. elem jhs
BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Allen, Jerry. THE ADVENTURES OF JIMMY POOLE. Dillon, 1976. 176 p. $6.95.
elem KR

Ames, Mildred. IS THERE LIFE ON A PLASTIC PLANET? Dutton, 1975. 134 p.
$6.95. elem jhs-7 BCCB KR SLJ

Ames, Mildred. WITHOUT HATS, WHO CAN TELL THE GOOD GUYS? Dutton, 1976. 133 p.
$6.95. elem jhs-7 BKL CBRS KR PW SLJ

Anderson, Mary. F*T*C* SUPERSTAR! Atheneum, 1976. 156 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem
KR SLJ

Anderson, Poul. HOMEWARD AND BEYOND. Doubleday, 1975. 204 p. $6.95. shs
BKL KR LJ

Arkin, Alan. THE LEMMING CONDITION. Harper, 1976. 58 p. $4.79. elem jhs-7
BCCB BLK KR PW SLJ

Arthur, Ruth M. ON THE WASTELAND. Atheneum, 1975. 159 p. $5.95. elem jhs
BKL BRD CBRS HB KR SLJ

Asimov, Isaac. BUY JUPITER AND OTHER STORIES. Doubleday, 1975. 206 p. $5.95. jhs-9 shs BKL KR LJ PW

Astley, Judith. THE FALL OF MIDAS. Coward, 1975. 253 p. $7.95. shs BKL* KR LJ PW

Bach, Alice. THE MEAT IN THE SANDWICH. Harper, 1975. 182 p. $5.79. elem jhs BCCB BKL KR PW SLJ*

Baker, Betty. DUPPER. Greenwillow, 1976. 147 p. $5.94. prim elem KR*

Bauer, Marion Dane. SHELTER FROM THE WIND. Seabury, 1976. 108 p. $6.95. elem jhs-7 CBRS HB KR PW SLJ*

Beatty, Patricia. BY CRUMBS, IT'S MINE! Morrow, 1976. 254 p. $5.81. elem jhs BCCB BKL CBRS KR PW SLJ*

Beckman, Thea. CRUSADE IN JEANS. Scribners, 1975. 275 p. $8.95. elem-6 jhs shs BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR SLJ

Beeks, Graydon. HOSEA GLOBE AND THE FANTASTICAL PEG-LEGGED CHU. Atheneum, 1975. 170 p. $6.95. elem BKL KR SLJ

Benchley, Nathaniel. BEYOND THE MISTS. Harper, 1975. 152 p. $5.79. jhs shs BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Benedict, Rex. THE BALLAD OF CACTUS JACK. Pantheon, 1975. 136 p. $5.99. elem jhs BKL CBRS KR SLJ

Blue, Rose. SEVEN YEARS FROM HOME. Childrens, 1976. 58 p. $4.95. elem jhs-7 SLJ

Bond, Michael. PADDINGTON ON TOP. Houghton, 1974. 124 p. $4.95. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL KR* SLJ*

Bond, Nancy. A STRING IN THE HARP. Atheneum, 1976. 370 p. $9.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10 BCCB* BKL CBRS HB KR PW SLJ

Boston, L. M. THE FOSSIL SNAKE. Atheneum, 1975. 53 p. $4.95. prim-3 elem jhs-7 BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Bourne, Miriam Anne. PATSY JEFFERSON'S DIARY. Coward, 1976. 96 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7 KR SLJ

Bova, Ben. END OF EXILE. Dutton, 1975. 214 p. $7.95. elem jhs shs-10 BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Bradbury, Bianca. BOY ON THE RUN. Seabury, 1975. 126 p. $5.95. elem jhs CBRS KR SLJ

Bradbury, Bianca. IN HER FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS. Houghton, 1976. 172 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs BCCB KR SLJ

Brady, Irene. BEAVER YEAR. Houghton, 1976. 40 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL KR SLJ

Brancato, Robin F. SOMETHING LEFT TO LOSE. Knopf, 1976. 179 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs BKL CBRS HB KR SLJ

Branscum, Robbie. TOBY, GRANNY, AND GEORGE. Doubleday, 1976. 105 p. $6.70. elem jhs BKL CBRS KR SLJ

Briggs, Raymond. FATHER CHRISTMAS GOES ON HOLIDAY. Coward, 1975. unp, $6.95. prim elem jhs shs BCCB BKL CBRS PW SLJ

Bröger, Achim. BRUNO. Morrow, 1975. 160 p. $4.59. prim-3 elem BKL* CBRS KR SLJ

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Steele, Mary Q., and William O. Steele. THE EYE IN THE FOREST. Dutton, 1975.
136 p. $6.95. elem jhs BKL CBRS KR SLJ

Storr, Catherine. THE CHINESE EGG. McGraw, 1975. 302 p. $6.84. jhs shs
BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR SLJ

Stover, Marjorie Filley. CHAD AND THE ELEPHANT ENGINE. Atheneum, 1975. 74 p.
$5.95. prim-3 elem BKL KR SLJ

Suhl, Yuri. THE MERRYMAKER. Four Winds, 1975. 45 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem jhs-7
BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Taylor, Theodore. TEETONCEY AND BEN O'NEAL. Doubleday, 1975. 185 p. $5.95.
elem jhs BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR SLJ

Thiels, Colin. FIGHT AGAINST ALBATROSS TWO. Harper, 1976. 243 p. $5.79.
elem jhs BKL* KR PW SLJ

Thomas, William. THE COUNTRY IN THE BOY. Nelson, 1975. 191 p. $6.95. jhs
shs CBRS KR SLJ

Thrasher, Crystal. THE DARK DIDN'T CATCH ME. Atheneum, 1975. 182 p. $6.50.
elem jhs BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ*

Titus, Eve. BASIL IN MEXICO: A BASIL OF BAKER STREET MYSTERY. McGraw, 1976.
96 p. $5.72. prim elem BCCB BKL CBRS KR SLJ

Unsworth, Walter. GRIMSDYKE. Nelson, 1976. 155 p. $6.50. elem-6 jhs
KR SLJ

Van Iterson, S. R. IN THE SPELL OF THE PAST. Morrow, 1975. 192 p. $4.97.
elem-6 jhs HB KR PW SLJ

Van Leeuwen, Jean. THE GREAT CHRISTMAS KIDNAPPING CAPER. Dial, 1975.
133 p. $5.47. Also available from Dell for $.95 paper. prim elem BCCB
BKL KR PW SLJ

Van Stockum, Hilda. THE BORROWED HOUSE. Farrar, 1975. 215 p. $6.95. elem jhs
BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR PW SLJ

Vogel, Ilse-Margret. MY TWIN SISTER ERIKA. Harper, 1976. 54 p. $4.43.
prim-3 elem CBRS HB KR SLJ

Vogel, Ilse-Margret. THE RAINBOW DRESS AND OTHER TOLLUSH TALES. Harper, 1975.
48 p. $5.79. prim elem-4 BKL HB KR SLJ

Wallace, Barbara Brooks. THE SECRET SUMMER OF L. E. B. Dell, 1974. 188 p. $1.25 paper. elem jhs-7 BCCB BKL SLJ

Walsh, Jill Paton. THE HUFFLER. Farrar, 1975. 84 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem jhs-7 BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Walsh, Jill Paton. UNLEAVING. Farrar, 1976. 145 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10 BKL CBRS HB KR PW SLJ*

Warner, Margery. THE SECRET OF THE DISAPPEARING SULTAN. Houghton, 1975. 169 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7 BCCB HB KR SLJ

Watkins, William Jon. A FAIR ADVANTAGE. Prentice, 1975. 95 p. $6.95. elem jhs shs-10 BKL KR SLJ

Watson, Simon. NO MAN'S LAND. Greenwillow, 1975. 190 p. $5.81. elem-6 jhs shs BKL HB KR SLJ

Waugh, Hilary. A BRIDE FOR HAMPTON HOUSE. Doubleday, 1975. 303 p. $7.95. shs BKL KR LJ PW

Wayne, Jenifer. SPROUT. McGraw, 1976. 90 p. $5.72. prim-3 elem CBRS KR SLJ

Wayne, Jenifer. SPROUT'S WINDOW CLEANER. McGraw, 1976. 89 p. $5.72. prim-3 elem CBRS KR SLJ

Wellman, Alice. THE WILDERNESS HAS EARS. Harcourt, 1975. 141 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs BCCB BKL KR SLJ

Weverka, Robert. THE WALTONS: THE EASTER STORY. Bantam, 1976. 184 p. $1.25 paper. elem-6 jhs shs SLJ

White, Leon Solomon. PATRIOT FOR LIBERTY. Lippincott, 1975. 192 p. $6.95. jhs shs-10 KR PW SLJ

Whitney, Phyllis A. THE GOLDEN UNICORN. Doubleday, 1976. 279 p. $7.95. shs BKL KR PW SLJ

Wibberley, Leonard. THE LAST BATTLE. Farrar, 1976. 197 p. $6.95. elem jhs BKL HB KR PW SLJ*

Wilhelm, Kate. WHERE LATE THE SWEET BIRDS SANG. Harper, 1976. 251 p. $7.95. shs-12 BKL* KR LJ PW SLJ

Willard, Barbara. HARROW AND HARVEST. Dutton, 1974. 174 p. $7.50. jhs shs-10 BCCB* BKL HB KR SLJ

Williams, Jay, and Raymond Abrashkin. DANNY DUNN, SCIENTIFIC DETECTIVE. McGraw, 1975. 172 p. $5.72. prim-3 elem KR PW SLJ

Williams, Ursula Moray. NO PONIES FOR MISS POBJOY. Nelson, 1976. 159 p. $6.50. elem jhs-7 BKL KR SLJ

Wolitzer, Hilma. INTRODUCING SHIRLEY BRAVERMAN. Farrar, 1975. 153 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7 BCCB BKL* CBRS KR PW SLJ

Yolen, Jane. THE MOON RIBBON AND OTHER TALES. Crowell, 1976. 54 p. $6.95. prim elem CBRS KR

Yolen, Jane. THE TRANSFIGURED HART. Crowell, 1975. 86 p. $5.95. elem jhs CBRS KR PW SLJ

Young, Miriam. TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES. Four Winds, 1975. 101 p. $6.50. elem BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR PW

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Rand - Rand McNally and Company, P.O. Box 7600, Chicago, Illinois 60680

Random - Random House School and Library Services, Inc., 201 East 50th Street, New York, New York 10022

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Whitman - Albert Whitman & Company, 560 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois 60606

Windmill - Windmill Books, Inc., 201 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10003

Materials Review & Evaluation Services
Division of Educational Media
State Department of Public Instruction

Raleigh, North Carolina
September 1977

ADVISORY LIST OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA

FOR

FICTION BOOKS

This bibliography lists books classified as fiction in the school media collection.

The name of a school administrative unit appearing after an annotation indicates that educators in that school system reviewed the book annotated and submitted the information for inclusion on the ADVISORY LISTS. Occasionally such books may not appear on display at the Materials Review and Evaluation Center in Raleigh. Educators should bear in mind that books included on this list were selected from those which publishers chose to submit for evaluation and may assume that books available for purchase not appearing on the list either were not submitted for evaluation or received unfavorable reviews. Information about negative reviews, which do not appear on this bibliography, can be obtained by writing or calling the Materials Review and Evaluation Center. At the end of this bibliography may be found an unannotated list of books which have had favorable reviews in reliable reviewing sources.

The levels at which books may be used most effectively are indicated by "K" (Kindergarten), "prim" (primary: Grades 1-3), "elem" (elementary: Grades 4-6), "jhs" (junior high school: Grades 7-8[9]), and "shs" (senior high school: Grades[9]10-12). The insertion of an arabic numeral after the grade level indicates that the book is especially pertinent at that specific grade level--e.g., "prim-2," "elem-6."

In some cases prices were not available. Prices shown are those quoted by publishers and producers. Prices quoted do not include postage and are subject to change.

All books included on this bibliography except some of those suggested for inclusion by local school administrative units are displayed in the Materials Review and Evaluation Center at 620 North West Street in Raleigh.

PLEASE DO NOT ORDER BOOKS ON THIS LIST FROM THE MATERIALS REVIEW AND EVALUATION CENTER OR FROM THE DIVISION OF TEXTBOOKS. Sources of the books are listed on the DIRECTORY OF PUBLISHERS AND PRODUCERS PARTICIPATING IN THE MEDIA REVIEW PROGRAM, a separate publication accompanying the complete set of ADVISORY LISTS OF INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA. An abbreviated or code name for the publisher/producer appearing in the bibliographic entry on this list appears in the DIRECTORY, where the complete address follows the code name.

Schools may use this list to aid in selection of materials but are in no way restricted to purchasing items included on this list.

Alexander, Anne. CONNIE. Atheneum, 1976. 179 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Eighth-grade Connie struggles to sort out values when Dad loses his job, family moves to unglamorous nieghborhood, snobbish friends needle her; gradually she realizes that her close family, old-fashioned house, and vegetable garden are envied by rich, swimming-pool set she pals with; some platitudes which book transcends through likable characters, nice writing style

Allan, Mabel Esther. MYSTERY IN ROME. Vanguard, 1974. 191 p. $5.95. jhs shs

Travel adventure in which Mrs. Agnew, author of popular travelogues, takes 19-year-old Flavia Scott as her secretary-companion on exciting visit to Rome; living at Villa Giannino, Flavia and Mrs. Agnew encounter intrigue and mystery; fine Roman backdrop--much romance and drama among ancient ruins, moonlit Coliseum, shadowed colonnades

Allen, Marjorie and Carl. THE MARBLE CAKE CAT. Coward, 1977. 48 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem-4

Because of his strange markings, the marble cake cat gets special treatment when

THE MARBLE CAKE CAT. (Cont'd)

all he wants is to be treated like a cat; illustrations on each page; for strong primary readers--an "in-between" book combining fairly advanced reading level with Easy Book appeal

Anderson, Margaret J. IN THE KEEP OF TIME. Knopf, 1977. 149 p. $6.99. elem-6 jhs

Set in Scotland, this time-travel adventure defies reality to explore past and future in old Smailholm Tower, a rugged Scottish Border Keep with stout walls and heavy oaken doors built centuries ago for family defense; for better readers who want different adventure, an unreal, fanciful one

Annandale, Barbara. THE BONNET LAIRD'S DAUGHTER. Coward, 1977. 286 p. $8.95. shs

The Bonnet Laird's daughter, Margaret, secretly marries fellow Scot, Gavin, a rebel officer serving in John Paul Jones's American Navy; fleeing her father's disapproval, Margaret travels to London, meets Dr. Johnson, his friend Boswell, other 18th-century personalities; highly improbable romantic novel for avid love-adventure story readers

Austen, Jane, and another lady. SANDITON. Described on Languages Advisory List

Babbitt, Natalie. TUCK EVERLASTING. Farrar, 1975. 139 p. $5.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.75 paper. jhs shs

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Barbour, Ruth P. CRUISE OF THE SNAP DRAGON. Blair, 1976. 211 p. $8.95. elem-6 jhs

Captain Otway Burns, a commissioned privateer during trouble with Britain around 1812, takes SNAP DRAGON on its first voyage; sea adventure based on historical fact; notes and bibliography; North Carolina setting provides enrichment reading for junior high social studies program

Baughman, Dorothy. PINEY'S SUMMER. Coward, 1976. 70 p. $5.95. elem

Ten brief episodes about Piney (William Jones) living in Deep South; Piney saves his pet hen from Sunday dinner fate, pulls a mule's hair thinking it will turn into a snake, meets a convict; nostalgic; dialect may be difficult for some readers

Benchley, Nathaniel. A NECESSARY END: A NOVEL OF WORLD WAR II. Harper, 1976. 193 p. $6.79. jhs shs

Green young recruit matures into seasoned, philosophical seaman in story of war's awful boredom and sporadic violence; fine study of a young man growing up under unusual circumstances; rich with navy terms and descriptions of nautical organizations at war (Wilkes County)

Bethancourt, T. Ernesto. THE DOG DAYS OF ARTHUR CANE. Holiday, 1976. 160 p. $6.95. jhs

After 16 years as a well-to-do Long Island boy, Arthur is turned into a stray mutt for six weeks and discovers what life may be about; befriended by poor black family, chased by dog catchers, he becomes companion to near-blind street musician in Greenwich Village where he learns about true friends; run over, poisoned, impounded, almost executed, Arthur reemerges in human form--wiser but strange to his friends; fantastic but fun

Bonham, Frank. THE MISSING PERSONS LEAGUE. Dutton, 1976. 157 p. $6.95. jhs shs

With Earth in environmental decay, its population subsisting on tranquilizers and algae, and brightest people slowly disappearing, Brian Foster seeks his missing mother and sister; his quest brings Environmental Police surveillance, series of mysterious clues, and help from Heather, also searching for relatives; slightly fantastic plot, thin characterizations, but good entertainment for sci fi buffs

Bonham, Frank. THE RASCALS FROM HASKELL'S GYM. Dutton, 1977. 119 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Young gymnast, Sissy Benedict, leaves Haskell's Rascals to join Butterflies Gymnastic Club which faces stiff competition: she must perform artistically as well as correctly while worrying about missing money and papers which may mean the loss of her father's hotel; Mother has abandoned Sissy and Father; farfetched but readable

Boston, L. M. THE STONES OF GREEN KNOWE. Atheneum, 1976. 118 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Story of time travel at Green Knowe Manor in 12th-century England; Roger, son of the manor, discovers "stones" rumored about by Saxons whose heritage stretches back into dim pagan history; soon Roger is moving far ahead in time, visiting future inhabitants of Green Knowe; another good book in Green Knowe series; wonderful descriptive passages

Bradbury, Bianca. "I'M VINNY, I'M ME." Houghton, 1977. 200 p. $6.95. shs

Contemporary story of orphaned 17-year-old girl and her 12-year-old brother making their own way in small New England resort town; seeking to elude foster home, they work--and grow--together, trying to keep family motel going; bittersweet, beautifully written, matter-of-fact style; no pathos and not a false note from beginning to end

Bradbury, Ray. LONG AFTER MIDNIGHT. Knopf, 1976. 271 p. $7.95. shs

Collection of 22 short stories sensitive to both realistic and futuristic moods, interpretive of spiritual yearnings as well as human foibles; plots are tight, well organized; some profanity, but not vulgar or manipulative; varied subjects: "The Blue Bottle" (set on Mars), "The Messiah" (a moving modern encounter with Him), "The Parrot Who Met Papa" (Hemingway confides his greatest plot to a parrot); Bradbury's first collection in seven years

Branscum, Robbie. THE SAVING OF P. S. Doubleday, 1977. 127 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7

Last-born child of Arkansas preacher, Priscilla Sue (or "P.S."), is a "sinner" keeping house for her widowed father; gettin' saved and livin' with Pa's new wife lead to adventure, laughter, tears; hill country dialect a bit contrived and realistic chamber pot functions may need reviewing before purchase, but good rendition of young girl with growing pains

Brenner, Barbara. ON THE FRONTIER WITH MR. AUDUBON. Coward, 1977. 96 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Excellent fictionalized biography of the great naturalist based on authentic records; "narrated" by 13-year-old Joseph Mason, who actually existed and executed floral backgrounds in some Audubon drawings; very personal, warm, hewing closely to known facts in Audubon's career; clever device--letting young readers discover the artist through his young apprentice's eyes; illustrated

Budbill, David. SNOWSHOE TREK TO OTTER RIVER. Dial, 1976. 83 p. $5.47. elem jhs

When 12-year-old Daniel crashes through frozen Vermont river in below-zero temperature, wilderness skills learned from experienced woodsman save his life; high adventure in New England wilderness for outdoor enthusiasts; excellent artwork by noted wildlife artist, L. F. Bjorkland (Wilkes County)

Bunting, Eve. GHOST OF SUMMER. Warne, 1977. 192 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Kevin, 15-year-old Californian visiting his clergyman-grandfather in Northern Ireland, finds things less serene than his mother remembered; amid Protestant-Catholic conflicts, Kevin becomes involved in searching for buried treasure--but romantic ghosts do not hide ugly present; useful social studies background material

Burch, Robert. TWO THAT WERE TOUGH. Viking, 1976. 80 p. $6.95. elem jhs-7

Chicken called Wild Wings and lonely, tired old Mr. Hilton shift stubbornly for themselves on Georgia farm; almost no one uses the old man's grist mill any more,

TWO THAT WERE TOUGH. (Cont'd)

children chase his beloved chicken, and Mr. Hilton himself is almost carted off to Atlanta to live with his daughter; author of delightful QUEENIE PEAVY, Burch once again expresses inner feelings of special human being; attractive, full-page, black-and-white crayon and wash drawings; cloth-bound spine, paper-covered boards (Wilkes County)

Butler, Beverly. A GIRL NAMED WENDY. Dodd, 1976. 211 p. $4.95. jhs shs

Visiting in Milwaukee, 15-year-old American Indian, Wendy, meets a militant native American whose talk convinces her to run away with little sister Jill and return to their out-of-work mother on reservation; there Wendy tries to find how she fits within two cultures; good insight into American minority group groping with native heritage versus white man's

Byars, Betsy. THE PINBALLS. Harper, 1977. 136 p. $5.79. elem jhs

A foster home brings together Carlie, aged 15, whose stepfather abuses her, Harvey, 13, whose mother left to join commune, and Thomas J., eight, another abandoned child; Carlie calls them "pinballs," rolling at each tilt, until her strength and humor, along with loving foster parents, show her that each can do something about his/her own destiny; warm without being sentimental; North Carolina author

Cahill, Susan, ed. WOMEN AND FICTION: SHORT STORIES BY AND ABOUT WOMEN. NAL, 1975. 379 p. $2.25 paper. shs

Short story anthology by and about women, ranging chronologically from Kate Chopin and Edith Wharton to Julie Hayden and Alice Walker; each story preceded by brief summary of author's professional life; selections made on literary rather than feminist basis, thus portrayals of women not always positive; book's strength lies in exceptional talent of authors to portray varied female experience; stories include "The Garden Party" (Katherine Mansfield), "Miss Furr and Miss Skeene" (Gertrude Stein), "Wunderkind" (Carson McCullers), and "In a Region of Ice" (Joyce Carol Oates); excellent content for courses in modern women's literature

Campbell, Hope. LEGEND OF LOST EARTH. Four Winds, 1977. 154 p. $6.95. jhs shs

On polluted planet of Niflhel, Giles Chulain joins illegal society which believes man came from planet Earth and that those who believe strongly enough will return to that clean, beautiful planet; obvious but different message for sci fi fans

Carey, M. V. ALFRED HITCHCOCK AND THE THREE INVESTIGATORS IN THE MYSTERY OF DEATH TRAP MINE. Random, 1976. 152 p. $3.99. elem jhs-7

Another in Hitchcock mystery series, this bizarre story involves the "Three Investigators"--Jupiter Jones, Pete Crenshaw, Bob Andrews; hired to prune Christmas trees on New Mexico ranch, they immediately plunge into mystery of Death Trap Mine; upon solving mystery, they report to Alfred Hitchcock, who analyzes mystery with them; unlikely but fast-moving plot appealing to "reluctant" or slow secondary readers

Carlson, Dale. THE PLANT PEOPLE. Watts, 1977. 93 p. $5.90. elem jhs

Teen-aged Mike and five other survivors seek help when strange, invading fog makes most residents of Cactus, Nevada, develop disease that turns them into plants; black-and-white photos alternate with pages of text; high-interest/low-vocabulary fare for older slow readers

Carr, Terry, ed. PLANETS OF WONDER: A TREASURY OF SPACE OPERA. Nelson, 1976. 189 p. $6.95. jhs-9 shs

Collection of four "space operas," as sci fi stories were called in 1930's, with unreal settings on other planets and plots as unreal as the settings; intriguing, fascinating; biographical information on each author

Cavanna, Betty. MYSTERY OF THE EMERALD BUDDHA. Morrow, 1976. 224 p. $5.94. elem-6 jhs

Excitement, mystery, and romance unite for 16-year-old Lisette Paul in Thailand with her photographer-father on assignment; when priceless Emerald Buddha disappears, Lisette's powers of observation save the day for her family under house arrest and interrogated by King

Clark, Ann Nolan. ALL THIS WILD LAND. Viking, 1976. 180 p. $6.95. elem jhs

When her Finnish family immigrates to Minnesota in 1876, 11-year-old Maiju has reason to remember her father's stressing "sisu" (Finnish for "courage") as troubles beset family; author's note gives insight into research involved in writing historical fiction; by a Newbury Award winner

Clark, Margaret Goff. MYSTERY OF SEBASTIAN ISLAND. Dodd, 1976. 159 p. $4.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

When 15-year-old Dena returns to Sebastian Island from boarding school for summer, she learns that islanders' main occupation, lobstering, is being sabotaged by someone apparently intent on running off Gramp Sebastian; Gramp's dog disappears, a bag of drugs is found, and a sea chase climaxes a mystery exciting for even reluctant readers

Clark, Mavis Thorpe. THE SKY IS FREE. Macmillan, 1976. 173 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

Bland but well-written tale of two 15-year-old runaway boys in Australian Outback; good depiction of Aussie manners and mores, universal themes of alienation, search for identity; use of metrics rather contrived and awkward; beware Aussie slang and colloquialisms

Clarke, Joan. EARLY RISING. Lippincott, 1976. 252 p. $7.95. elem jhs

Well-flavored fiction set in 1880's when wife of English vicar dies, leaving him with five young, energetic children; a housekeeper, a nursemaid, and a governess provide for their needs and Beatrice, their stepsister, comes to take charge; story deals more directly with Erica, the second child; interesting reading about English children "in the olden days"--good period piece

Clarkson, Ewan. THE BADGERS OF SUMMERCOMBE. Dutton, 1977. 150 p. $8.95. elem jhs

Life story of a badger, Borun, capturing the cruelty, beauty, sadness, joy of wildness as his mother is killed, he is befriended by domesticated cat, his living quarters usurped by a fox, his forest home threatened by bulldozers; a kind lady and a cruel farmer are the main human characters; conservation is the message

Cleaver, Vera and Bill. TRIAL VALLEY. Lippincott, 1977. 158 p. $7.95. elem-6 jhs shs

Mary Call has kept the family together since last seen in WHERE THE LILIES BLOOM; now, however, there is a lonely, abused waif to contend with; Mary battles family, romantic ties, personal feelings; North Carolina mountain setting; for better readers

Cogswell, Theodore R., and Charles A. Spano, Jr. SPOCK, MESSIAH! Bantam, 1976. 182 p. $1.75 paper. jhs shs

Rabid STAR TREK fans will devour this paperback of Spock's deranged behavior resulting from a mind-link with a religious fanatic on a medieval-style planet

Cohen, Barbara. BITTER HERBS AND HONEY. Lothrop, 1976. 159 p. $5.21. jhs-9 shs

In turn-of-the-century setting, Rebecca Levitsky comes to understand her Jewish faith as she experiences romance with a Gentile, refuses traditional marriage to suitor of her parents' choice, and struggles for parental permission to enter Barnard College; chapter headings follow high holy days of Jewish calendar

Conford, Ellen. AND THIS IS LAURA. Little, 1977. 179 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Mother writes gothic novels, Dad has a lab, Douglas plays the piano, Dennis quotes TV ads, Jill takes the lead in every school play--AND THIS IS LAURA (without any special talents), or so Laura thinks as she strives for recognition in up-to-date story of family relationships, peer pressures, communication problems; humorous, pathetically true incidents

Corbett, Scott. THE BLACK MASK TRICK. Little, 1976. 88 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Mrs. Graymalkin asks Kerby and Fenton to help her get papers from the historical society to prove state's first governor was a crook; aided by Waldo the dog, the group turns town's bicentennial pageant into an uproar; fast and funny

Corcoran, Barbara. CABIN IN THE SKY. Atheneum, 1976. 197 p. $6.95. jhs shs

The growing up of Tommy Fortier, innocent Maine boy lured from Maine woods by bright lights of the theater; interestingly presented in flashback technique through autobiographical film produced by mature, successful Tom Fortier; readers "view" Tom's life with him from his Maine departure to his stint in show biz; honest, compelling, well paced

Corcoran, Barbara. THE FARAWAY ISLAND. Atheneum, 1977. 158 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Shy 14-year-old Lynn moves to Nantucket Island for a year with Grandmother, who do-gooders think is senile; she is forgetful--so much so Lynn is able to skip school to spend time with pet lamb; adjustments to old age and new people bring Lynn confidence; good story about growing pains

Crowe, Cecily. ABBEYGATE. Coward, 1977. 256 p. $8.95. jhs-9 shs

Suspense, romance, murder, and Irish "blarney" combine in well-plotted gothic novel with fully developed characters, such as Elinor Winter, New Englander who accepts position in Ireland to tutor three children of touring actor; uneasy, mysterious air pervades Desmond estate; murder within estate's walls brings the father home; for romantic girls

Cunningham, Julia. COME TO THE EDGE. Pantheon, 1977. 79 p. $5.99. elem-6 jhs

When Gravel Winter, a waif, learns that his only friend, Skin, has been adopted, Gravel runs away, beginning unusual series of alliances with blind, wealthy, old gentleman, obese old lady, deaf woman; finally calm, unruffled Mr. Paynter receives Gravel as though nothing unusual distinguishes his plight; therapeutic reading reminiscent of Dickens (spunky orphans, harsh schoolmasters, vividly drawn misfits); excellent read-aloud or discussion starter

Curley, Daniel. ANN'S SPRING. Crowell, 1977. 70 p. $6.50. elem

Simple fantasy creeps into book's ordinary beginning when Ann is left in charge as Mother goes to Midwest to repair spring flood damage; Mother is Mother Nature and Ann must bring spring to New England; minor mishaps and almost major disaster occur as Ann gets the hang of her new responsibility

Curry, Jane Louise. POOR TOM'S GHOST. Atheneum, 1977. 178 p. $6.95. jhs shs-10

Cox Castle, delapidated house outside London, proves a threat and a mystery to Nicholas family as present and past coexist in 13-year-old Roger and his father Tony; a fantasy/ghost story/mystery; events switch smoothly from present to past and back again; language of 17th-century characters is nice, quaint touch (Wilkes County)

Cussler, Clive. RAISE THE TITANIC! Viking, 1976. 314 p. $8.95. shs

Developing a secret device that will protect United States from air attack requires a rare mineral, byzanium--its only known source is on the TITANIC at the bottom of the ocean; time is 1998; language is rough; review before purchase

De Huff, Elizabeth Willis. BLUE-WINGS-FLYING. Addison, 1977. 58 p. $5.21. prim-3 elem jhs-7

Blue-Wings-Flying, young Hopi Indian boy, wishes for a sister so he can participate in traditional ceremonies he has learned by listening to elders and observing; extensive text, poetic use of language, expressive two-color blue and brown illustrations; picture-book format; author's note explains Hopi culture

Du Maurier, Daphne. ECHOES FROM THE MACABRE: SELECTED STORIES. Doubleday, 1976. 325 p. $8.95. jhs-9 shs

Short story readers and Du Maurier fans will welcome nine famous tales gathered together for first time in collective edition; topics include obsessions, psychic and clairvoyant visions, unexpected deaths; titles include "The Birds," "Don't Look Now," "Kiss Me Again, Stranger"

Distad, Audree. THE DREAM RUNNER. Harper, 1977. 151 p. $5.79. elem jhs

Fatherless teen-ager, Sam, finds early morning long distance running his only joy, but when his half-Indian friend Clete dies Sam decides to seek the mountain vision site where a spirit will lead him to manhood; much information on long distance running

Duncan, Lois. SUMMER OF FEAR. Little, 1976. 217 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs

When orphaned cousin Julia comes to live with Bryant family, strange things begin to happen: Rachel's dog dies, Rachel loses her boyfriend to Julia, and to family disbelief she suspects Julia is a witch; suspenseful from beginning to end; light but chilling

Dunnahoo, Terry. THIS IS ESPIE SANCHEZ. Dutton, 1976. 156 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Another visit with gritty 15-year-old Chicano, Espie Sanchez, now an Explorer Scout working with police force; Espie manages to be in the thick of things as usual--a search for a missing youngster, a "wetback" smuggling operation, and a stabbing; action-filled portrayal of Mexican-American experience in Southern California; easy reading; some profanity

Evenhuis, Gertie. Lance Salway, trans. WHAT ABOUT ME? Nelson, 1976. 96 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Eleven-year-old Dirk in German-occupied Amsterdam recounts his part in Nazi resistance after discovering his brother is involved in the movement; translated from Dutch; suitable for reluctant readers

Eyerly, Jeannette. THE LEONARDO TOUCH: A NOVEL OF SUSPENSE. Lippincott, 1976. 156 p. $6.95. jhs shs

When Elizabeth Darragh's father is injured by hit-and-run driver, he insists that Elizabeth fly alone to Wales to collect promised painting for prestigious Darragh gallery in New York City; at once intrigue and mystery overtake 17-year-old Elizabeth in appealing trifle for young mystery buffs and Eyerly fans

Feagles, Anita MacRae. THE YEAR THE DREAMS CAME BACK. Atheneum, 1976. 146 p. $6.50. jhs

Difficulties of father and daughter in single-parent home after mother's suicide--peer attitudes, smoking and drinking, choosing friends and companions; climaxed by Nell's running away when father announces intention to remarry; eventually both father and daughter are released from fear, guilt about suicide--and Nell begins to dream pleasantly again as teen-aged girls are inclined to do

Fife, Dale. WHO'LL VOTE FOR LINCOLN? Coward, 1977. 63 p. $4.97. prim-3 elem

Lincoln didn't expect so many dangerous, exciting experiences when he ran for class president--the class bully his arch rival, difficult campaign promises, even dangerous criminals; the hero of Plum Street has his hands full; soft, expressive black-and-white illustrations by Paul Galdone

Forbes, Tom H. QUINCY'S HARVEST. Lippincott, 1976. 143 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Quincy, son of eastern North Carolina sharecropper, finds friendship with elderly black who tries to help him understand necessity of killing marauding animals while also enjoying nature's beauty; low-keyed; boys will like it; North Carolina author

Gilman, Dorothy. MRS. POLLIFAX ON SAFARI. Doubleday, 1976. 182 p. $6.95. shs

Lovable CIA agent-alias-innocent-little-old-lady, Mrs. Pollifax, is up to her old tricks again in adventure in exotic Zambia; she tangles with Rhodesian agents, Zambian nationalists, saves the life of Zambia's president; rousing good fun for her loyal fans

Glaser, Dianne. AMBER WELLINGTON, WITCH WATCHER. Walker & Co., 1976. 120 p. $5.85. elem

Summer vacation mystery engrosses Amber Wellington, visiting her grandparents on their Tennessee farm, when Amber persuades her cousin and a friend to go witch hunting at midnight; appealing for reluctant readers

Gordon, John. THE GHOST ON THE HILL. Viking, 1976. 171 p. $6.95. jhs-9 shs

The supernatural electrifies a sleepy English village in modern tale of restless ghosts, ill-fated lovers, a terrifying old crone; John Gordon weaves enchanting spell that finally snaps climactically on Midsummer's Eve when ancient graveyard yields up its sinister secret; nice modern people caught almost in a time warp--br-r-r!

Greene, Constance C. BEAT THE TURTLE DRUM. Viking, 1976. 119 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Thirteen-year-old Kate narrates story of the great summer when her sister Joss rented a horse for a week with her eleventh birthday money; Joss was killed in a fall from a tree and Kate had to seek comfort outside her family; moving, unsentimental

Gripe, Maria. THE GREEN COAT. Delacorte, 1977. 170 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Deals with separated parents and liberated mother who wants her children to call her Irma; daughter, Fredrika, copies Irma, using her personal power over her classmates, especially Britt who buys a matching coat; how Fredrika breaks this pattern, gets Irma to become a genuine mother again, will entertain young readers; translated from the Swedish

Haar, Jaap ter. THE WORLD OF BEN LIGHTHART. Delacorte, 1977. 123 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

An athletic high school student loses his sight in an accident in a story detailing his hospitalization, homecoming, people's reactions, his readjustments, eventual acceptance of blindness; serious but positive, touching emotions while indicating a direction for the sighted to take with those handicapped by blindness; translated from the Dutch

Hagy, Jeannie. AND THEN MOM JOINED THE ARMY. Abingdon, 1976. 143 p. $4.75. elem jhs

The moral conflict of 11-year-old Scott to be both faithful to pal Jason and cooperative with school officials investigating Jason's thefts; many current issues--one-parent family, itinerant people, stealing, drugs, women's lib; fast, absorbing reading for average students who prefer 1-2-3 plots, predictable personalities (Wilkes County)

Hale, Arlene. THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD. Little, 1976. 265 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Ann Barker leaves Los Angeles high life to satisfy conditions of inheritance from her uncle--to live on Uncle Nat's farm in rural Midwest for one year; renovation, romance, and sudden, dangerous evidence that someone wants to get rid of Ann keep story moving interestingly; mystery and romance with a touch of sophistication but also realistic, promoting good moral values

Haugaard, Erik Christian. A MESSENGER FOR PARLIAMENT. Houghton, 1976. 218 p. $6.95. shs

Exciting, well-written, informative account of 12-year-old boy deeply involved in events of early years of English Civil War; excellent fictionalized history that teaches without pain; sequel is an event to be eagerly anticipated

Hicks, Clifford B. ALVIN'S SWAP SHOP. Holt, 1976. 143 p. $6.50. elem

Alvin, the Magnificent Brain, starts with an ordinary black ant and develops a thriving swap shop soon to become the scene of the wild capture of a thug chasing a Bahamian boy with unknown treasure; for fans of other Alvin stories

Hildick, E. W. THE GREAT RABBIT RIP-OFF: A MCGURK MYSTERY. Macmillan, 1977. 101 p. $6.95. elem

The McGurk Private Investigation Organization seeks the culprit who has painted ornamental lawn rabbits with red paint, after which the rabbits disappear; typical, easy-to-read mystery

Hill, Elizabeth Starr. EVER-AFTER ISLAND. Dutton, 1977. 119 p. $6.95. elem

Rather slight fantasy of contemporary children on enchanted island where their scientist parents work for Dr. Murk; there they discover fairy tales are real; young readers, well grounded in fairy tales, will appreciate book's puns

Hobson, Sam B., and George Carey Hobson. Esther Linfield, trans. & adapt. THE LION OF THE KALAHARI. Greenwillow, 1976. 118 p. $5.94. elem jhs

A fearless eight-year-old Bushman boy survives the Kalahari Desert after his family is purged from the tribe by a new leader; translated from the Afrikaan; excellent reading

Hoke, Helen, sel. GHOSTS AND GHASTLIES. Watts, 1976. 181 p. $5.90. elem jhs

Well-known storytellers but lesser known tales in collection of chilling stories with reluctant as well as aggressive ghosts

Holland, Barbara. THE PONY PROBLEM. Dutton, 1977, 122 p. $6.95. elem

Dogwood Estates, typical suburban subdivision, is in an uproar when 11-year-old Jean uses her front yard to pasture Hopscotch, the pony; "horse story" with social commentary unobtrusive

Holman, Felice. SLAKE'S LIMBO. Scribners, 1974. 117 p. $5.95. Also available from Dell for $1.25 paper. elem jhs

Described on January 1976 Fiction Books Advisory List

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. MAMA. Knopf, 1977. 90 p. $5.99. elem jhs

Poor, proud "Mama" resorts to filching for her sons--clothes from department stores, meats from home where she is housekeeper, etc.; she involves her reluctant older son, who narrates this warm, offbeat story, in her forays; how he rehabilitates Mama expresses a moral without being sanctimonious; good therapeutic reading

Household, Geoffrey. ESCAPE INTO DAYLIGHT. Little, 1976. 139 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Tense, tightly plotted story of two kidnapped 12-year-olds outwitting and outrunning their kidnappers; excellent for capable middle graders, but plot complexities, British colloquialisms may baffle many; achieves delicate balance of presenting violence without brutality, excitement without melodrama

Household, Geoffrey. HOSTAGE LONDON: THE DIARY OF JULIAN DESPARD. Little, 1977. 240 p. $8.95. shs

First-rate thriller by a master of the genre; radical underground group attempts overthrow of British government and institutions with stolen A-bomb; can be read

HOSTAGE LONDON: THE DIARY OF JULIAN DESPARD. (Cont'd)

for entertainment only, but raises some profoundly disturbing, unresolved questions about present-day world affairs and priorities

Hunt, Irene. WILLIAM: A NOVEL. Scribners, 1977. 188 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Sarah, pregnant white teen-ager, moves to small Florida town next door to black family, has her baby, and when mother next door dies, Sarah takes in children rather than let them grow up in orphanage as she did; narrated by 8-year-old William of black household; it is a strange communal arrangement beset with many problems but enriched with love and understanding; sensitive and solid; review before purchase

Hunter, Mollie. THE WICKED ONE: A STORY OF SUSPENSE. Harper, 1977. 136 p. $5.79. elem jhs

A Gaelic fantasy full of humorous, moving adventures when a family is taken on by the Grollican, an Otherworld creature out to make mischief; enchanted filly and fairies also play a part as hot-tempered Colin Grant's family tries to rid themselves of the bothersome creature; excellent read-aloud, slightly suspenseful, divided into chapters, lilting use of words

Johnston, Norma. THE SANCTUARY TREE. Atheneum, 1977. 219 p. $7.95. jhs shs

Turn-of-the-century story based on tales author heard from Yonkers, N. Y., relatives; this book from a series is warm story of family problems, sibling conflicts, boy-girl relationships, school squabbles, influence of special teachers on individual students; values such as loyalty, the work ethic, taking responsibility, sharing oneself, finding one's talent, included without moralizing; not historical per se, although a period piece of writing

Johnston, Norma. A STRIVING AFTER WIND. Atheneum, 1976. 250 p. $8.95. jhs shs

Post-Civil War family coping with individual "strivings after"--finding out who they are, fulfilling talents possessed; continues saga of Vandever family begun in Johnston's OF TIME AND SEASONS; many literary allusions to 17th-century poetry, the Bible (Ecclesiastes in particular), Shakespeare; a novel with old-fashioned values and mores

Kahn, Joan, ed. SOME THINGS WEIRD AND WICKED: TWELVE STORIES TO CHILL YOUR BONES. Pantheon, 1976. 243 p. $5.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.50 paper. shs

Stories of ghosts, unnatural or at least unusual occurrences, imaginary happenings; some are as new as "You Are My Sunshine," many are 19th century but express feelings, emotions, fears of today; biographical sketches of authors--Jack London, Robert Louis Stevenson, Vin Packer; by author of SOME THINGS DARK AND DANGEROUS

Kalb, Jonah. THE GOOF THAT WON THE PENNANT. Houghton, 1976. 103 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Slapstick baseball team of misfits win a pennant through a strange goof which apparently was a real happening in a 1908 game; very easy reading

Kennedy, Richard. THE BLUE STONE. Holiday, 1976. 93 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Fantasy with folktale qualities about peasant Jack, his wife Bertie, and a blue stone which causes a variety of mishaps among sundry evil characters; Bertie becomes a chicken, Jack a duck, and pigs are transformed into loaves of bread until a wandering minstrel steps in; soft pencil sketches; nice format

Le Guin, Ursula K. VERY FAR AWAY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE. Atheneum, 1976. 89 p. $5.95. jhs shs

Seventeen-year-old Owen, bright, small, intellectual, scientifically oriented, meets Natalie, bright, dedicated musician who helps him come to terms with himself but causes distress and anguish when sex and friendship need sorting out; believable emerging adults; well written

Lem, Stanislaw. THE STAR DIARIES. Seabury, 1976. 275 p. $9.95. shs

Ijon Tichy, cosmic Don Quixote, is transported by Lem's icteric wit and extraterrestrial vehicles to distant constellations where in a series of short stories he fights formidable foes in his bumbling way and pokes great fun at sacred cows; absorbing SF book for avid cosmopolitan readers

Levitin, Sonia. BEYOND ANOTHER DOOR. Atheneum, 1977. 174 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs

Sensitive story of teen-aged Daria, her friends, and her ESP ability inherited from her grandmother; Daria's first experience with ESP is linked to a carnival glass dish which sometimes emits a fragrance and at other times becomes the face of her grandmother; fast-paced, offbeat, interesting...

Lingard, Joan. THE PILGRIMAGE. Nelson, 1976. 158 p. $6.95. shs

Contemporary Scots, Maggie McKinley and James Fraser, bicycle off on a summer "pilgrimage" to the glen where Maggie's great-great-grandmother lived; romance, maturation, Maggie's conflicting desires for marriage and a career mingle in credible modern story appealing to senior high readers; sequel to THE RESETTLING

Little, Jean. LISTEN FOR THE SINGING. Dutton, 1977. 215 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

Anna, almost blind and freshly emigrated from Germany, is frightened about adjusting to high school in Canada; when World War II breaks, her German background becomes sensitive issue; thoughtful reading for thoughtful readers; sequel to ANNA; good read-aloud

Love, Sandra. BUT WHAT ABOUT ME? Harcourt, 1976. 152 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Eleven-year-old Lucy resents her mother's return to work; she tries to adjust, friends help her, but a careless fire finally makes her accept changes; timely subject, easy to read

Lowry, Lois. A SUMMER TO DIE. Houghton, 1977. 154 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Thirteen-year-old Meg always envied sister Molly's beauty, popularity, ease with people; when Molly becomes terminally ill, Meg faces even more of an emotional quandary; poignant, beautifully written fiction which brings birth-life-death cycle into sharp focus in meaningful story for young people

Ludman, Barbara. THE STRAYS. Nelson, 1976. 149 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs

Small-town Florida teen-agers help the no-account Shanks family win social acceptance--obnoxious Mrs. Shanks, convicted car thief Billy, and likable Stella; warmly narrated by central character, Mary Frances Allen, who leads battle against natural suspicions of townsfolk where the motley Shankses are concerned; excellent fiction

MacDonald, [illegible]. MRS. PIGGLE-WIGGLE. Lippincott, 1975. 119 p. $1.95 paper. elem

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle has a cure for many behavior problems children wrestle with--the won't-pick-up-toys cure, the answer-backer cure, the never-want-to-go-to-bedders cure, and more; her cures are so amusing that children learn without being aware of it; good read-aloud selection for Grades 4-6 (Wilkes County)

McGraw, Eloise Jarvis. A REALLY WEIRD SUMMER. Atheneum, 1977. 217 p. $_____. jhs shs

Four siblings, ages 6 to 12, spend an emotionally harrowing summer with a great-uncle and aunt in an old inn while their parents' divorce is pending; adult psychological theme cast in juvenile format; although extremely well written and plotted, the writing may be too juvenile for older students, whereas plot is probably too complex, sophisticated, to be understood by juveniles; perhaps best solution is for teachers to read aloud, explaining plot complexities; surface plot and action should keep younger readers riveted

McHargue, Georgess. THE TALKING TABLE MYSTERY. Doubleday, 1977. 140 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Pleasant, amusing little book about two junior high students who find some old diaries in a basement--and what happens next; mystery is not very mysterious and plot is somewhat contrived, but writing is generally quite good; should command younger readers' interest

McKillip, Patricia A. THE RIDDLE-MASTER OF HED. Atheneum, 1976. 228 p. $7.95. jhs

Dark and fascinating tale about Prince Morgon of Hed, schooled by riddle-masters at Caithnard and guided by harpist of High One, to seek reason for three stars on Morgon's brow; step by step, Morgon's questions are answered as he finds an enchanted harp and sword bearing same three stars--and eventually meets the High One himself; first book in proposed trilogy about Prince of Hed (Wilkes County)

Madison, Winifred. CALL ME DANICA. Four Winds, 1977. 203 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

When her father dies, Danica, her mother, brother, and sister leave Croatia for "the promised land" of Canada; along with culture shock, unequal treatment, loneliness, Danica must also suffer pangs of being age 13; customs of Croatia well described; good for unit on immigration, citizenship

Manley, Seon, and Gogo Lewis, sels. SISTERS OF SORCERY: TWO CENTURIES OF WITCHCRAFT STORIES BY THE GENTLE SEX. Lothrop, 1976. 220 p. $6.71. shs

Short stories about witchcraft chiefly by 19th- and 20th-century women authors; not easy language, some decidedly Victorian in style; includes Dorothy Sayers, Andre Norton, Doris Lessing, and actual courtroom testimony from 1692 Salem witch trials; for good readers interested in witchcraft

Mazer, Norma Fox. DEAR BILL, REMEMBER ME? AND OTHER STORIES. Delacorte, 1976. 195 p. $6.95. shs

Eight simple and effectively written short stories treating different aspects in lives of teen-aged girls--love, boyfriends, family relationships, death; intelligent, sensitive, perceptive portrayals with which most girls and women will identify

Mazer, Norma Fox, and Harry Mazer. THE SOLID GOLD KID. Delacorte, 1977. 219 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Tense, beautifully written novel of terror, courage, despair, selflessness--the gamut of human emotions--experienced by five kidnapped teen-agers, all strangers to each other; if you pick this one up, you won't put it down; some profanity, but not more than most would be able to handle

Molarsky, Osmond. THE FEARLESS LEROY. Walck, 1977. 58 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem

Leroy Mott moves in with his aunt in San Francisco and informs neighborhood children his father is a circus performer named The Fearless Fantini; when his boast leads to a test of his own mettle, Leroy finds himself in a quandary; sympathetic treatment of lonely, friendless newcomer; large print; illustrated

Newman, Robert. NIGHT SPELL. Atheneum, 1977. 189 p. $7.95. elem jhs

Fourteen-year-old orphaned Tad Harper, spending the summer with crusty Mr. Gorham on Gorham's Island, tries to solve some mysteries with help of lighthouse keeper's daughter; supernatural enters lightly as mystery of Mr. Gorham's disappeared daughter is solved and Tad's need for family love is fulfilled

Norton, Andre. RED HART MAGIC. Crowell, 1976. 179 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Stepbrother and stepsister, Chris and Nan, resolve their differences through dream travel inspired by an antique model inn peep show; in simultaneous dreams, they return to Red Hart Inn during exciting reign of James I; ingredients middle-graders love--mystery, adventure, fantasy (Wilkes County)

O'Dell, Scott. THE 290. Houghton, 1976. 118 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs

Apprentice, Jim Lynne, helps a British builder construct THE 290, a Confederate vessel, which he ships out on and witnesses slave trading as well as slaves freed in Caribbean; Civil War story in sea setting

Parker, Richard. QUARTER BOY. Nelson, 1976. 92 p. $5.95. jhs shs

Burgeoning ambition and romance overtake Charlie Saffron, recent British high school graduate; good insight into modern-day English village life; light, flip, amusing "long" short story; pleasant way to while away an idle hour; innocuous

Peck, Robert Newton. KING OF KAZOO. Knopf, 1976. 81 p. $6.99. prim-3 elem

Written in tall tale vein, this cumulative story features a cowpuncher and two supporting characters--a plumber and a drummer; each sings a song about his occupation; personable ghost gives each a magic kazoo, launching some fantastic adventures; music scores, suggestions for dramatization; great fun for read-aloud time, dramatization, individual reading

Perl, Lila. DUMB LIKE ME, OLIVIA POTTS. Seabury, 1976. 181 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Ten-year-old Olivia Potts dislikes school, feels inferior to her brainy parents and siblings; underachiever Olivia blossoms when she gets involved in solving a series of neighborhood robberies; fast reading by author of THAT CRAZY APRIL and THE TELLTALE SUMMER OF TINA C.

Pevsner, Stella. KEEP STOMPIN' TILL THE MUSIC STOPS. Seabury, 1977. 136 p. $6.95. elem

Cousins Richard and Alexandra get wind of Aunt Violet's plan to uproot Grandpa from Mississippi and install him in senior citizens' trailer park in Florida; at family gathering in Mississippi the plan explodes, for Grandpa has schemes of his own; a second strong interest is sixth-grade Richard's eventual acceptance of his school problem--dyslexia; humorous, sympathetic reading

Pinkwater, D. Manus. LIZARD MUSIC. Dodd, 1976. 157 p. $4.95. elem jhs

Fantasy enters Victor's life when his hippie sister takes off while his parents are vacationing, leaving Victor to watch late-night television; after a late science fiction movie, he sees and hears lizards playing music on an unscheduled program; later he meets Chicken Man, goes to the lizard's island, learns their civilization as well as something about his own; funny and entertaining!

Rabe, Berniece. THE GIRL WHO HAD NO NAME. Dutton, 1977. 149 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Twelve-year-old Girlie was given no name when she was born, the last of 10 sisters; upon her mother's death during the Depression, her father refuses to keep her at home, and Girlie goes from sister to sister, home to home, searching for her identity; resilient, likable character who discovers why she received no name--and much more

Roberts, Bruce and Nancy. GHOSTS OF THE WILD WEST. Doubleday, 1976. 81 p. $6.90. elem jhs

Western ghosts are recreated by North Carolina team who did GHOSTS OF THE CAROLINAS; satisfying, easily read, appealing to middle grades; well illustrated with black-and-white photos

Robison, Nancy. THE HANG-GLIDER MYSTERY. Lantern, 1976. 124 p. $5.58. elem jhs-7

Adventurous Colin, living on Pacific Coast, runs into unexpected trouble when he takes his turn on the hang-glider and attempts to rescue a hang-gliding girl accidentally pulled over the cliff; bank robbers and breathless derring-do for mystery buffs; elementary children and older "reluctant" readers will be thrilled (Wilkes County)

Rock, Gail. A DREAM FOR ADDIE. Knopf, 1975. 89 p. $5.99. Also available from Bantam for $1.50 paper. elem jhs

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Rubin, Jeff, and Rick Rael. BASEBALL BROTHERS. Lothrop, 1976. 48 p. $4.59. prim elem-4

Young blacks, James and Clarence, disappointed to find Hank Aaron's last game of the season sold out, manage to meet the homerun king; fully illustrated; for newly independent readers

St. George, Judith. THE CHINESE PUZZLE OF SHAG ISLAND. Putnam, 1976. 157 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Thirteen-year-old Kimball Lauder helps her enfeebled Great-grandpa, in danger of losing both his mind and his Maine homestead; the two struggle to preserve their lives and sanity against weird Chinese music, flashing lights, unknown scoundrels, hidden panels; well-worded, short sentences; basically middle grades appeal, although book's format may attract young adults with reading difficulties (Wilkes County)

Salisbury, Carola. DOLPHIN SUMMER. Doubleday, 1977. 234 p. $7.95. jhs shs

As companion to invalid Melloney, Annabel senses danger on the yacht DOLPHIN as it cruises Mediterranean Sea in 1897; romantic suspense on yacht rather than in gothic mansion

Savitt, Sam. VICKI AND THE BROWN MARE. Dodd, 1976. 156 p. $4.95. elem jhs

In better than average horse story, 15-year-old Vicki Jordan recognizes Skylark as potential jumper and barters stablework for a year in order to own her; Vicki trains Skylark, increasing her own ridership, but learns she is not so skillful as the mare; when member of United States Equestrian Team committee spots Skylark, Vicki faces difficult decision; glossary of horse terms

Schulz, Charles M. IT'S ARBOR DAY, CHARLIE BROWN. Random, 1977. unp. $3.99. $2.95 paper. elem jhs

Arbor Day and baseball season engage Charlie Brown and his friends in customary, delightful muddle; with ecology and conservation such current topics and Arbor Day material scarce, this can teach as it entertains

Sharp, Margery. BERNARD THE BRAVE: A MISS BIANCA STORY. Little, 1977. 128 p. $7.95. prim-3 elem

Another in Margery Sharp's delightful MISS BIANCA series, this one featuring Bernard, Miss Bianca's faithful right-hand mouse and secretary of Mouse Prisoners' Aid Society; in this episode Bernard is the furry-eared hero who rescues an orphaned heiress; sophisticated reading level but interest level of early elementary children; excellent read-aloud

Shaw, Richard. THE HARD WAY HOME. Nelson, 1977. 127 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Upbeat short novel about upper-middle-class 16-year-old runaway, told by him, others who know or meet him; Gary's hassles with his father will arouse sympathy of teen-aged boys; written well, with humor; author makes his points clearly without belaboring them or indulging in pseudo-psychological cant; easy, pleasant, significant reading

Silman, Roberta. SOMEBODY ELSE'S CHILD. Warne, 1976. 64 p. $5.95. elem

A very nice treatment, neither maudlin nor roughly realistic, of sensitive issue of adoption; 10-year-old Peter gains insight into society's conflicting views about adoption when he helps childless elderly couple recover two beloved dogs lost in snowbound woods

Silverberg, Robert. THE SHORES OF TOMORROW: EIGHT STORIES OF SCIENCE FICTION. Nelson, 1976. 191 p. $6.95. shs

Science fiction short stories by noted SF author; all eight project the reader into future, are distinguished by humor and irony; occasional swearing, some dubious conduct may tab this one for reviewing before purchase; excellent content for high schools emphasizing SF--Silverberg of course is first-rate in the genre

Singer, Isaac Bashevis. NAFTALI THE STORYTELLER AND HIS HORSE, SUS, AND OTHER STORIES. Farrar, 1976. 129 p. $6.95. jhs shs

Engrossing, many-leveled short stories by master storyteller, these folk tales are difficult to evaluate, being both very simple, very complex; set in Jewish community of various Polish towns in 19th and early 20th centuries, stories employ words, religious customs and observances requiring esoteric knowledge and detailed explanation; not for every reader, this book will reward those with special interests and perceptions

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley. UNTIL THE CELEBRATION. Atheneum, 1977. 214 p. $7.95. jhs shs

The struggle for reunion of the Erdlings, imprisoned below ground, and the Kindar of Green-sky, practitioners of nonviolent social ideals, takes a new twist when two children who know about "uniforce" disappear; last of a trilogy in which BELOW THE ROOT and AND ALL BETWEEN should be read first

Spence, Eleanor. THE DEVIL HOLE. Lothrop, 1977. 215 p. $5.61. elem jhs

When an autistic child is born to normal family in small Australian town, the adjustments of adolescent, musically gifted, second son Douglas are terribly difficult; autistic Carl causes family to move to Sydney and a special school; no pat answers to coping with handicapped, but fine insights into the dilemma; for independent reading or for persons faced with similar problems

Steig, William. ABEL'S ISLAND. Farrar, 1976. 117 p. $5.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.75 paper. prim-3 elem

Described on January 1977 Fiction Books Advisory List

Stevens, R. T. THE SUMMER DAY IS DONE. Doubleday, 1976. 424 p. $7.95. shs

Well-written, engaging, historical novel of tragic love story of Duchess Olga, oldest daughter of Nicholas and Alexandra, and British secret agent, John Kirby; chronicles the end of Imperial Russia, realistic details of Revolution, last days of Romanov regime, murder of royal family; adult content; purchase if student interest or curriculum justifies

Still, James. SPORTY CREEK: A NOVEL ABOUT AN APPALACHIAN BOYHOOD. Putnam, 1977. 125 p. $5.95. jhs shs

Collection of previously published short stories about family life in Depression-days Kentucky coal country told in vernacular from viewpoint of 10-year-old boy; lightly, amusingly, often touchingly written, dealing with serious subject matter that requires historical perspective to appreciate fully; excellent supplement to Appalachia, socio-economic, and folk studies, and to U. S. history of 1930's, as well as excellent literature in its own right; lovely woodcuts by Janet McCaffery

Stolz, Mary. FERRIS WHEEL. Harper, 1977. 131 p. $6.79. elem

Treats the pains of close friends separating when Kate moves to California, leaving 9-year-old Polly to cope with the loss and face usual brother-sister conflicts, impatience with parental admonitions; a new girl moves into Polly's Vermont college town and soon Consuela becomes the next "best friend"; good recreational reading; well-rendered relationships

Streatfeild, Noel. WHEN THE SIRENS WAILED. Random, 1976. 176 p. $6.99. elem

In 1939 three Clark children were evacuated from London to the country to a retired colonel, happy rural life; when he dies and children are reassigned to woman they dislike, they run away to London to find their house bombed, their mother hospitalized; wartime's effects on children will interest elementary readers

Sypher, Lucy Johnston. THE TURNABOUT YEAR. Atheneum, 1976. 216 p. $8.50. elem jhs

The last of four books set in small North Dakota frontier town, this one brings Lucy Johnston to 1917 and such things as a spy hunt, a new baby in the family, death of a friend, and continuing desire to go to a city high school

Taylor, Mildred D. ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY. Dial, 1976. 276 p. $7.95. jhs shs

1977 Newbery Award winner takes further look at Logan family, blacks living in South in 1930's; narrated by Cassie Logan who observes but cannot accept mistreatment, humiliation of black people suffering with determination, dignity; some extremely depressing but accurate accounts of racial harassment; a bitter book--one that never purges its grim, militant viewpoint; excellent characterizations, frustrating conclusion; difficult reading level, much dialect; more polemic than plot

Taylor, Theodore. THE ODYSSEY OF BEN O'NEAL. Doubleday, 1977. 209 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

In this final volume of a trilogy, Ben O'Neal, recently orphaned, leaves the Outer Banks as crew member of a sailing ship to search for his brother and rediscovers Teetoncey, a stowaway on board and heroine of a previous title; less Outer Banks information than other two titles; North Carolina-born author

Taylor, Theodore. TEETONCEY AND BEN O'NEAL. Doubleday, 1975. 185 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs shs-10

At the turn of the century Ben, an Outer Banks young man, his mother, neighbors, and Teetoncey, a shipwrecked young girl, experience adventure, mystery, love, death; readable, entertaining; a few four-letter words, none forced or offensive; North Carolina-born author

Terris, Susan. THE CHICKEN POX PAPERS. Watts, 1976. 124 p. $5.90. elem

Gussie, confined with chicken pox on her 10th birthday, writes letters "outside" on gift stationery, "borrows" a letter-opener without permission from scary Great-Aunt Augusta, looks after a baby cousin, tries to sneak away; funny, complicated adventures

Thiele, Colin. FEBRUARY DRAGON. Harper, 1976. 162 p. $5.79. elem jhs

Australian bush country setting with its ever-present threat of brush fires finds the Pine children adventuring through summer--bringing home wild animals, horse racing, nearly drowning, until the February fire finally erupts; recreational reading for better readers

Timmermans, Gommaar. THE GREAT BALLOON RACE. Described on Languages Advisory List

Timmermans, Gommaar. THE LITTLE WHITE HEN AND THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE. Addison, 1976. unp. $4.46. elem jhs shs

Blanche, a hen drafted into Emperor's army to fight Czar, encounters many difficulties until she helps bring peace; full-color, comic-book-like illustrations in several frames per page; sophisticated text under each frame; suitable for creative writing, art, perhaps film-making students

Tobias, Tobi. AN UMBRELLA NAMED UMBRELLA. Knopf, 1976. 46 p. $5.99. prim-3 elem

The adventures of a Chinese paper umbrella bought by Anne, who insists it speaks Chinese; misplaced, the umbrella passes through several hands before Anne finds it again; Chinese symbols sprinkled throughout text; illustrated; easy reading

Towne, Mary. FIRST SERVE. Atheneum, 1976. 213 p. $6.95. elem jhs

Sisters Dulcie and Pat become tennis court rivals; tensions as well as give-and-take of family life are such that readers can identify with or enjoy vicariously the triumphs of a younger sister over a preferred older one

Townsend, John Rowe. TOP OF THE WORLD. Lippincott, 1976. 94 p. $5.95. prim-3 elem

Donald, 7-year-old son of caretaker of 20-story office building, sneaks up to penthouse executive suite to play; the company president makes a surprise visit--and then the fun begins! Easily read, entertaining story; illustrated

Turnbull, Ann. THE WOLF KING. Seabury, 1976. 141 p. $5.95. elem jhs

Iron Age youths, Coll and Grayla, search for his brother and her father among the Dark People and Elder Folks, fighting cold, hunger, wolf attacks, magic; appealing Grayla is independent, spunky, quick thinking--comparing more with a modern "Ms." than an Iron Age girl! (Wilkes County)

Waldron, Ann. THE LUCKIE STAR. Dutton, 1977. 166 p. $7.50. elem-6 jhs

Quincy Luckie, scientifically minded, is a misfit in her artistic family; during summer holidays in Florida, though, she discovers a Spanish shipwreck and things begin to change for Quincy--and for her family, who take a new, long look at her

Wallace, Barbara Brooks. JULIA AND THE THIRD BAD THING. Follett, 1975. 54 p. $4.98. prim-3 elem

Turn-of-century Russian peasant life centering on three young daughters wondering what the next "bad thing" will be since their Grandmother insists things come in three's; small print; brief text; pen-and-ink illustrations

Wallace, Barbara Brooks. PALMER PATCH. Follett, 1976. 128 p. $5.97. prim-3 elem-4

Palmer, a deodorized skunk introduced into household of various pets, retains his woods-bred suspicion of humans; when rumors of being "farmed out" circulate, Palmer flees with other pets; many trials later, they are reunited with their human family; for young animal-loving readers not put off by talking animals

Walters, Thomas. ALWAYS NEXT AUGUST. Moore, 1977. 166 p. $6.95. elem jhs shs-10

Bob, Linda, and Scott spend August on Blue Ridge Mountains family homestead, seeking the solution to a treasure hunt concocted by their great-great-grandfather for his children before he left for duty in Civil War; mountain crafts and characters, literary allusions, country dialect and expressions; North Carolina author

Wells, Rosemary. LEAVE WELL ENOUGH ALONE. Dial, 1977. 218 p. $7.95. jhs shs

Fourteen-year-old Dorothy becomes a summer "mother's helper" for wealthy Hoade family and encounters values rather shocking to a lower-middle-class Catholic girl; suspicious of an off-limits cottage, Dorothy discovers a secret she must decide about; thought-provoking, humorous, excellent reading

Wersba, Barbara. TUNES FOR A SMALL HARMONICA. Harper, 1976. 178 p. $6.49. shs-12

Wry, witty, poignant, sometimes sardonic account of 16-year-old "J.F." (Jacqueline Frances) McAllister, somewhere between tomboyish child and developing woman; J.F.'s glib, marvelous story of her infatuation with her poetry teacher at exclusive New York City girls school captures adolescent loneliness, self-awareness, dawning recognition of adulthood; principal criticism is that book is so well written in first person that J.F. becomes a little too precocious to be entirely believable; J.F. is Holden Caulfield's counterpart to the "T"--but with more humor, less self-pity; preview before purchase

Whitney, Phyllis A. THE GOLDEN UNICORN. Doubleday, 1976. 279 p. $7.95. jhs-9 shs

Nervous sophisticates, New England aristocrats, and artistic free spirits spice Courtney Marsh's tantalizing search for her blood parents, aided only by a tiny gold unicorn which accompanied her as an infant to her adoptive parents; brooding setting, exotic cast, love angle

Wolitzer, Hilma. OUT OF LOVE. Farrar, 1976. 147 p. $6.95. jhs

Satisfactory fictional treatment of heartache suffered by sensitive children when parents divorce; 14-year-old Teddy Hecht secretly cherishes hope that her parents will remarry, even though Dad's new wife is beautiful, young, devoted; especially good characterizations; warm, funny, insightful

Yep, Laurence. CHILD OF THE OWL. Harper, 1977. 217 p. $5.79. elem jhs

Casey, 12-year-old Chinese-American, bums around with her compulsive gambler father until he is hospitalized; sent to her maternal relatives in San Francisco, Casey, her independence, rough ways require the wisdom of Paw-Paw, her grandmother in Chinatown; Paw-Paw, a jade owl charm, its legend, theft, and recovery, all help her discover her heritage; excellent reading by author of 1976 Newbery Honor Book

Zindel, Paul. PARDON ME, YOU'RE STEPPING ON MY EYEBALL! Harper, 1976. 262 p. $6.49. shs

Typical Paul Zindel in a slick slice-of-life look at anti-establishment urban teens hassling neurotic parents, impossible teachers, weirdo guidance counselors, and their own confused selves; fast moving, spiced with hep slang, colorful characterizations; permeated with a sense of depression--downbeat but funny; definitely preview before purchase; teen-agers will love it (Wilkes County)

BOOKS REVIEWED IN OTHER SOURCES

The books listed below have received favorable reviews in one or more of the following reviewing sources. Code letters for the reviewing sources are cited after the bibliographic entry for each title. The reviewing sources and their code letters are as follows:

AMERICAN LIBRARIES	AL
APPRAISAL	A
BOOK REVIEW DIGEST	BRD
BOOKLIST	BKL
BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS	BCCB
CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW SERVICE	CBRS
CHOICE	C
HORN BOOK	HB
KIRKUS REVIEWS	KR
LIBRARY JOURNAL	LJ
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY	PW
SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL	SLJ
SCIENCE AND CHILDREN	SC
SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS	SBF
TOP OF THE NEWS	TN
WILSON LIBRARY BULLETIN	WLB

An asterisk after the code letters for the reviewing source indicates that the title was highly recommended in that particular reviewing source.

Anderson, LaVere. BALTO: SLED DOG OF ALASKA. Garrard, 1976. 48 p. $3.94. prim-3 elem SLJ

Arkin, Alan. THE LEMMING CONDITION. Bantam, 1976. 58 p. $1.50 paper. elem BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Balch, Glenn. BUCK, WILD. Crowell, 1976. 136 p. $6.50. elem-6 jhs BKL KR SLJ

Bethancourt, T. Ernesto. THE DOG DAYS OF ARTHUR CANE. Bantam, 1976. 149 p. $1.50 paper. elem-6 jhs HB KR PW SLJ

Blades, Ann. A BOY OF TACHÉ. Scribners, 1976. unp. $5.95. $2.95 paper. prim elem BKL KR

Bolton, Evelyn. STABLE OF FEAR. Childrens, 1974. 31 p. $4.95. prim-3 elem jhs-7 SLJ

Brookins, Dana. RICO'S CAT. Seabury, 1976. 135 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem BKL KR SLJ

Bunting, Eve. SKATEBOARD FOUR. Whitman, 1976. 63 p. $2.63. elem SLJ

Cline, Linda. THE MIRACLE SEASON. Putnam, 1976. 182 p. $6.95. jhs shs KR LJ PW SLJ

Conford, Ellen. THE ALFRED G. GRAEBNER MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL HANDBOOK OF RULES AND REGULATIONS. Little, 1976. 220 p. $5.95. elem-6 jhs BCCB BKL SLJ

Cookson, Catherine. OUR JOHN WILLIE. NAL, 1974. 198 p. $1.50 paper. shs BKL KR LJ PW

Corbett, Scott. THE GREAT MCGONIGGLE'S GRAY GHOST. Dell, 1975. 59 p. $.95 paper. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL KR SLJ

Crichton, Michael. THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY. Bantam, 1975. 300 p. $1.95 paper. shs BKL* HB KR LJ PW SLJ WLB

Davis, Paxton. A FLAG AT THE POLE: THREE SOLILOQUIES. Atheneum, 1976. 109 p. $5.95. jhs shs KR PW SLJ

Dickinson, Peter. THE BLUE HAWK. Ballantine, 1976. 217 p. $1.95 paper. shs BKL* HB KR LJ PW SLJ

Drury, Roger W. THE CHAMPION OF MERRIMACK COUNTY. Little, 1976. 199 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Duncan, Lois. DOWN A DARK HALL. NAL, 1974. 188 p. $1.25 paper. elem-6 jhs BKL HB KR LJ PW

Dunlop, Eileen. ELIZABETH, ELIZABETH. Holt, 1975. 185 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs PW SLJ

Forman, James. THE WHITE CROW. Farrar, 1976. 227 p. $7.95. jhs-9 shs KR SLJ

Forsyth, Frederick. THE SHEPHERD. Viking, 1975. 123 p. $4.95. shs BCCB BKL KR LJ PW SLJ

Freeman, Barbara C. THE OTHER FACE. Dutton, 1976. 151 p. $6.95. elem jhs BKL KR SLJ

Gripe, Maria. JULIA'S HOUSE. Dell, 1975. 182 p. $1.25 paper. prim-3 elem jhs-7 BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Hall, Lynn. CAPTAIN: CANADA'S FLYING PONY. Garrard, 1976. 48 p. $3.68. prim-3 elem SLJ

Hall, Lynn. FLOWERS OF ANGER. Follett, 1976. 128 p. $5.97. jhs BCCB BKL SLJ

Hallman, Ruth. SECRETS OF A SILENT STRANGER. Westminster, 1976. 75 p. $6.95. elem BKL KR SLJ

Herzog, Arthur. THE SWARM. NAL, 1974. 275 p. $1.95 paper. shs-12 BKL KR LJ PW WLB

Hunter, Evan. ME AND MR. STENNER. Lippincott, 1976. 157 p. $6.95. elem jhs-7 BKL KR PW SLJ

Hurwitz, Johanna. BUSYBODY NORA. Dell, 1976. 64 p. $.95 paper. prim elem-4 BCCB BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Jones, Diana Wynne. CART AND CWIDDER. Atheneum, 1975. 193 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs BKL KR SLJ

Karp, Naomi J. THE TURNING POINT. Harcourt, 1976. 154 p. $6.95. elem jhs BCCB BKL KR SLJ

Kerr, M. E. LOVE IS A MISSING PERSON. Dell, 1975. 141 p. $1.25 paper. elem-6 jhs shs-10 BCCB BKL KR PW SLJ

Konigsburg, E. L. FATHER'S ARCANE DAUGHTER. Atheneum, 1976. 118 p. $5.95. elem jhs BCCB* BKL* HB KR PW SLJ

Kurelek, William. A NORTHERN NATIVITY: CHRISTMAS DREAMS OF A PRAIRIE BOY. Scribners, 1976. unp. $9.95. prim-3 elem jhs shs BCCB BKL* KR PW SLJ

Le Guin, Ursula K. ORSINIAN TALES. Harper, 1976. 179 p. $7.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.95 paper. shs BKL C HB KR LJ PW SLJ

Leigh, Frances. THE LOST BOY. Dutton, 1976. 112 p. $5.95. elem jhs BCCB BKL KR SLJ

McCaffrey, Anne. DRAGONSONG. Atheneum, 1976. 202 p. $7.95. Also available from Bantam for $1.75 paper. elem jhs shs-10 BCCB BKL CBRS HB KR PW SLJ

Masters, John. THE HIMALAYAN CONCERTO. Doubleday, 1976. 374 p. $8.95. shs-12 BKL KR PW

Morgan, Alison. AT WILLIE TUCKER'S PLACE. Nelson, 1975. 95 p. $5.95. elem BKL KR PW SLJ

Namioka, Lensey. WHITE SERPENT CASTLE. McKay, 1976. 154 p. $6.95. jhs shs-10 BKL KR SLJ

Nöstlinger, Christine. GIRL MISSING. Watts, 1976. 139 p. $5.90. elem-6 jhs BCCB BKL SLJ

Paulsen, Gary. WINTERKILL. Nelson, 1976. 142 p. $6.95. elem-6 jhs shs KR SLJ

Phipson, Joan. THE CATS. Atheneum, 1976. 168 p. $5.95. elem jhs-7 BCCB HB KR

Pinkwater, Manus. BLUE MOOSE. Dell, 1975. 47 p. $.95 paper. K prim elem BCCB BKL HB KR* PW

Rayner, Mary. THE WITCHFINDER. Morrow, 1976. 160 p. $5.21. elem BCCB BKL KR SLJ

Rock, Gail. ADDIE AND THE KING OF HEARTS. Knopf, 1976. 85 p. $5.99. Also available from Bantam for $1.50 paper. elem jhs-7 BCCB CBRS KR SLJ

Rockwood, Joyce. TO SPOIL THE SUN. Holt, 1976. 180 p. $6.95. jhs shs BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Rodowsky, Colby F. WHAT ABOUT ME? Watts, 1976. 136 p. $5.90. elem-6 jhs BCCB BKL SLJ

Schurfranz, Vivian. ROMAN HOSTAGE. Follett, 1975. 224 p. $5.97. elem-6 jhs BCCB BKL PW SLJ

Seaman, Donald. THE TERROR SYNDICATE. Coward, 1976. 214 p. $7.95. shs BKL KR PW

Steele, Mary Q. THE TRUE MEN. Greenwillow, 1976. 144 p. $5.94. elem jhs-7 BCCB HB KR SLJ

Sunderlin, Sylvia. ANTRIM'S ORANGE. Scribners, 1976. 57 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL* HB SLJ

Swarthout, Glendon. THE SHOOTIST. Bantam, 1975. 159 p. $1.50 paper. shs-12 BKL* KR LJ SLJ

Thiele, Colin. THE HAMMERHEAD LIGHT. Harper, 1976. 109 p. $6.49. elem jhs-7 BKL* KR

Uchida, Yoshiko. THE ROOSTER WHO UNDERSTOOD JAPANESE. Scribners, 1976. unp. $6.95. prim elem-4 BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Weverka, Robert. THE WALTONS. Bantam, 1974. 155 p. $.95 paper. elem-6 jhs shs SLJ

Willard, Barbara. THE MILLER'S BOY. Dutton, 1976. 143 p. $6.95. elem jhs-7 BKL HB KR SLJ

Williams, Jay. THE BURGLAR NEXT DOOR. Four Winds, 1976. 123 p. $5.95. elem BCCB BKL HB KR SLJ

Williams, Thomas. TSUGA'S CHILDREN. Random, 1977. 239 p. $7.95. shs KR PW

Wilson, Gahan. HARRY AND THE SEA SERPENT. Scribners, 1976. 127 p. $6.95. prim-3 elem BCCB BKL KR

Windsor, Patricia. MAD MARTIN. Harper, 1976. 119 p. $5.79. elem jhs-7 BKL HB KR PW SLJ

Winthrop, Elizabeth. A LITTLE DEMONSTRATION OF AFFECTION. Dell, 1975. 143 p. $1.25 paper. elem-6 jhs shs-10 BCCB BKL KR* PW SLJ*

Wood, Nancy. THE MAN WHO GAVE THUNDER TO THE EARTH: A TAOS WAY OF SEEING AND UNDERSTANDING. Doubleday, 1976. 165 p. $6.95. jhs shs KR LJ PW

York, Susannah. LARK'S CASTLE. McKay, 1976. 112 p. $4.95. prim-3 elem PW SLJ